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A2
THE ANN ARBOR NEWS

CAMP BATTLES

THE DETROIT RED WINGS KICK OFF THEIR CENTENNIAL SEASON AS TRAINING CAMP OPENS TODAY IN TRAVERSE CITY. THE ANNUAL RED-WHITE SCRIMMAGE IS SUNDAY IN GRAND RAPIDS. **C1**

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MICHIGAN BUSINESS

So long, Kellogg's. So, which brands still call Michigan home?

Kellogg's headquarters is located in Battle Creek, but the company is being sold to the Italian Ferrero Group. *MLive.com file photos*

Despite a wave of acquisitions this year, Michigan remains a strong manufacturing hub, with some big companies still headquartered in the Great Lakes State.

Ehren Wynder *ewynder@mlive.com*

Barrels get filled with Dragon's Milk at the New Holland Brewing Co. production campus in Holland. The company is Michigan's largest independent brewer.

Steelcase shocked Grand Rapids at the beginning of August when it announced it was being acquired by rival furniture company HNI Corp., based in Iowa, for $2.2 billion. The office furniture giant previously called Grand Rapids home for 113 years.

In June, Battle Creek found out its iconic cereal maker W.K. Kellogg Co. was being acquired by Ferrero Group, the Italian company behind Ferrero Rocher and Nutella, for more than $3 billion.

During the same month, New Hampshire's C&S Wholesale Grocers announced it was buying longstanding West Michigan grocery chain SpartanNash for $1.77 billion.

The deals, while representing significant outside interest in Michigan, have no doubt dealt a blow to the state's manufacturing pride. There are still, however, several big-name brands that proudly call Michigan home.

Here is a list of the top brands founded in Michigan that still maintain their headquarters and primary operations within the state.

AUTOMOTIVE

General Motors, founded in 1908 in Flint, maintains its global headquarters in Detroit's Renaissance Center. GM employs about 50,671 people in Michigan, representing about 1.1% of the state's workforce.

The company operates several manufacturing facilities throughout the state, including assembly plants in Flint, Lansing and Orion Township, as well as technical centers and proving grounds.

In June, General Motors announced it plans to invest $4 billion over the next two years at its plants in Michigan's Orion Township, Fairfax Assembly in Kansas and Spring Hill Manufacturing in Tennessee.

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer celebrated the "massive investment" in the Orion Assembly plant.

"We don't care what you drive — gas, diesel, hybrid, or electric — as long as it's made in Michigan," she said. "Together, let's keep bringing manufacturing home, growing the middle class, and making more stuff in Michigan."

Ford Motor Co., founded by Henry Ford in 1903 in Detroit, maintains its global headquarters in Dearborn. The company employs about 48,000 people in Michigan, representing another 1% of the state's workforce.

Stellantis, formed through the 2021 merger of Fiat Chrysler Automobiles and French automotive company PSA Group, maintains North American headquarters in Auburn Hills, while its legal office is in Hoofddorp, Netherlands.

The company operates assembly plants in Detroit, Sterling Heights and Warren, as well as numerous component manufacturing facilities throughout the state.

AUTOMOTIVE SUPPLIERS

Michigan also is home to numerous automotive suppliers propping up the traditional automakers once known as the Big Three.

Gentex Corp., headquartered in Zeeland, is a major electronics and technology company primarily supplying advanced vision and safety technologies for the automotive industry, with additional operations in fire protection and aviation.

The publicly traded company reported about $2.3 billion in annual revenue, employing more than 6,000 people around the world.

In April, Gentex acquired Voxx International, a move that expands its portfolio of consumer-facing electronics.

Portland Products, founded in 1947 and located in Portland, is another example of

SEE MICHIGAN BUSINESS, A3

BUDGET IMPASSE

Whitmer rejects House GOP budget, warns of tariff fallout

The governor spoke 15 days before state government will shut down if lawmakers can't pass a compromise spending plan.

Michael Kransz *mkransz@mlive.com*

LANSING — Gov. Gretchen Whitmer says she would not sign the House Republican budget that would eliminate thousands of full-time state government positions and slash $7.26 billion in state spending.

Whitmer gave that repudiation of the House budget proposal during a speech Tuesday, focused on the need to pass a state budget that invests in Michigan residents and businesses and protects them from the economic fallout from President Donald Trump's tariffs.

Her speech came just 15 days before Oct. 1, when the state government will shut down if lawmakers can't agree on a budget for 2025-26. The state's new fiscal year begins that day.

From "stubborn" inflation and stagnating wage growth to falling credit scores and growing unemployment in manufacturing, Whitmer said the nation is seeing "undeniable signs of an ailing economy."

> "Governing means compromise. A budget deal can deliver on the priorities that I've been fighting for: investing in our kids, fixing our roads, helping us compete, keeping people safe."
>
> **Gov. Gretchen Whitmer**

It's a "man-made storm of uncertainty that hits Michigan hard," Whitmer said, adding that while she's doing everything to protect the state and create jobs, she can't do it alone.

"Where is this uncertainty coming from? Two sources," she said. "First, and most significantly, chaotic national tariff policies. And second, our state budget. Today, I want to talk about what we can and must do on both fronts."

Whitmer said she sees a path forward in passing a budget on time that delivers the priorities of her office, the Democratic Senate majority and the Republican House majority.

"Governing means compromise," Whitmer said. "A budget deal can deliver on the priorities that I've been fighting for: investing in our kids, fixing our roads, helping us compete, keeping people safe. It can deliver on the Senate's important objectives and help us make sure that we protect Medicaid,

SEE BUDGET IMPASSE, A5

Advice, D1 **Classified**, C7 **Comics**, D3 **Local**, A2 **Michigan**, B1 **Obituaries**, B4 **Puzzles**, D2 **Sports**, C1 **Weather**, B2 **Your Money**, A6

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NEWS

LOCAL AUTUMNAL ADVENTURES

Wiard's Orchards' Country Fair welcomes all for fall festivities

Wiard's Orchard's Country Fair welcomed visitors Saturday for apple picking, haunted tractor rides and wandering through corn mazes. As the season shifts, there will be more apples and pumpkins to pick in their designated areas, as well as haunted tractor rides at night. Wiard's Orchards is open every Saturday and Sunday through Oct. 26, as well as Wednesday through Friday through Oct. 31. Hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on weekends and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on weekdays. Admission is $25.50 on weekends and $18 on weekdays (weekday tickets are available on the orchard website only); babies and toddlers younger than 2 get in free. This fall destination is at 5565 Merritt Road. *Photos Abra Richardson MLive.com*

ANN ARBOR

Some marijuana dispensaries OK'd to operate near schools

Ryan Stanton *ryanstanton@mlive.com*

Ann Arbor is carving out exceptions to allow some marijuana dispensaries to operate near schools.

City Council voted 10-0 Monday in favor of at least temporarily reducing the 1,000-foot distance requirement to allow dispensaries near schools in two areas.

That includes within 250 feet of the Doughty Montessori School at 416 S. Ashley St. and within 750 feet of the Progress Park School at 3980 Research Park Drive.

The change is intended to allow marijuana dispensaries to continue in locations where they or other dispensaries already have operated for years, officials said.

That includes Kings High, a new dispensary that has run into obstacles with the 1,000-foot distance requirement while trying to open in the former JARS Cannabis location at 450 S. Main St., the Jungle House at 338 S. Ashley St. and Crave Cannabis at 3860 Research Park Drive.

The state recently has applied a more strict interpretation of "K-12 school" than the city previously applied, officials said, explaining why some locations are in question.

None of the dispensaries have had any complaints, neither by the schools nor police, said Councilmember Jenn Cornell, D-5th Ward, ordinance sponsor.

"We're basically keeping them in business while Planning Commission determines our next steps and comes back to us at council with a recommendation and a plan forward," she said.

Council's initial approval of the temporary distance reduction Monday night comes back Oct. 6 for final approval.

Council voted in August to direct the commission to review the city's marijuana business regulations, including whether the 1,000-foot distance requirement should be maintained or reduced citywide or in specific zones and whether there should continue to be a cap of 28 marijuana retailers.

The commission is considering proposed new regulations Tuesday night. The city's planning staff recommends eliminating the 28-facility cap and the blanket distance requirements for schools in favor of case-by-case consideration.

Michael Langnas, an attorney for Kings High, thanked city officials for taking up the issue and making it a priority.

"We hope that it will continue to move in a positive direction and allow us to open our business, nine months after the fact, hopefully," he said.

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT

Expensive boondoggle or transformative vision? Bridge project debated

Despite concerns, city officials are reaffirming their support for the Treeline trail project.

Ryan Stanton *ryanstanton@mlive.com*

An expensive pedestrian bridge over Ann Arbor's North Main Street for the Treeline trail would be overkill, some residents told city officials.

City Council responded at its Monday meeting by still voting 10-0 in favor of a resolution reaffirming the city's support for the Treeline vision.

The elevated trail the nonprofit Treeline Conservancy hopes to raise funds to create, in partnership with the city, would connect with the city's Depot Street tunnel pathway to the riverfront at the north end and the city's 721 N. Main St. property at the southern end. Other segments would continue south.

Council's resolution restates the city's support for the evolving project as the conservancy begins to raise funds for the northern segment bridging over North Main.

It's a transformative project that will elevate the community's urban walkability, states the resolution sponsored by Mayor Christopher Taylor. It also expresses support for issuing a request for proposals for design, engineering and other services to continue work on the northern segment.

The conservancy presented new drawings to council in July showing what a "gateway bridge" could look like. No updated cost estimate for construction was provided, but it was estimated at about $18 million in 2021.

RESIDENTS WEIGH IN

Walking and biking advocates have suggested a much less costly option would be to just create a safe street-level crossing on North Main and a bikeway along Summit Street to link with Wheeler Park, which has a pathway through it. From there, the Depot Street tunnel pathway leads to the Border-to-Border Trail along the Huron River and Broadway Park West.

"Excellent grade-level crossings should be the priority," said resident Adam Jaskiewicz, who described himself as a frequent pedestrian.

Mark Scerbo, another resident who spoke, told council he uses his bicycle to get everywhere in town and has biked down to the river more times than he can count, going uphill and downhill. "I'm ecstatic about the Treeline trail proposal that would follow the more gradually sloping rail lines through town," he said. "However, the enormous elevated bridge connection at the north end isn't well thought out."

More than just the "crazy cost," Scerbo said, he's opposed to the bridge because, in his view, it essentially represents car infrastructure. It would make pedestrians walk much farther than taking a street-level crossing and would deprioritize the need to vastly improve safe transportation options between downtown and the river, he said.

"Please don't pass this resolution until we replace the proposal for an expensive and exclusionary bridge with a proposal for an at-grade crossing that prioritizes transit and nonmotorized transportation safety," he urged council.

Local attorney Tom Wieder argued council should reconsider its support for the entire Treeline project. "It just doesn't make sense," he said, calling it an expensive boondoggle.

MOVING FORWARD

Councilmember Erica Briggs, a walking and biking advocate, said she thought it was important to approve the resolution reaffirming council's support.

"We've got a conservancy that's working to do private fundraising to create the Treeline trail throughout our community," she said, saying she didn't want to put blockades in the way of a nonprofit working to raise funding for an important nonmotorized facility.

"This simply acknowledges that we generally support this project," she said.

While there are draft plans, council is not approving any specific design at this time, said Briggs, D-5th Ward.

As for concerns about whether the current bridge design meets community needs, she said the conservancy would be wise to engage the public and get more input.

"Because I think that there is opportunity for improvement here," she said. "However, I also think that there's a lot of diversity of opinion around what safe nonmotorized facilities look like."

Briggs said she looks forward to a future with multiple exciting routes to get around the town by bike, foot and other nonmotorized means.

"I think we will get there," she said.

The project's ability to attract grant funding and other contributions is dependent on demonstrating continued momentum, Norman Herbert, the conservancy's co-chair, told council members in July. The conservancy intends to work with the city on pursuing grants.

Under a 2019 collaboration agreement between the city and the conservancy, the city ultimately will be the title holder of the Treeline trail assets.

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FROM THE COVER

MICHIGAN BUSINESS

So long, Kellogg's. So, which brands still call Michigan home?

Continues from A1

a Michigan-founded automotive supplier that has maintained local ownership.

The company specializes in automotive metal stampings and assemblies, supplying interior metal components to other automotive suppliers, including major companies like Magna and Faurecia.

This year, the company was acquired by local investors Rick Slater and Ben Greve, backed by Sleeping Giant Capital of Kalamazoo, preserving its Michigan roots.

Bollinger Motors, founded in 2014, announced in 2025 that it would be consolidating operations in Oak Park as part of a corporate restructuring. The company, which focuses on commercial electric vehicles, specifically cited its strategic decision to locate closer to the automotive industry's core.

A Stryker mobile lab has traveled to schools to introduce students to company medical devices. *MLive.com files*

Pharmaceutical giant Perrigo officials unveil the company's Grand Rapids headquarters in 2022. *MLive.com files*

RETAIL

Founded by Hendrik Meijer in 1934 in Greenville, Meijer Inc. has grown from a single grocery store to a major regional retailer operating about 260 stores across Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio and Wisconsin.

Headquartered in Walker near Grand Rapids, Meijer remains privately held by the Meijer family, maintaining its Michigan roots while expanding across multiple states.

Several Grand Rapids institutions pay homage to the Meijer family's philanthropy, including Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park, Corewell Health's Fred and Lena Meijer Heart Center and Michigan State University's Doug Meijer Medical Innovation Building.

Zeigler Auto Group of Kalamazoo remains one of the largest family-owned automotive dealer groups in the U.S.

Founded in 1975 and now led by president Aaron Zeigler, the company operates 84 franchises across 41 locations in Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana and Michigan.

The company in May announced the acquisition of LaFontaine Jeep in Kalamazoo, renaming the dealership to Zeigler Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram of Kalamazoo.

"Our goal has always been to deliver the ultimate automotive experience ... and bringing Jeep into our Stadium Drive location allows us to do just that, more conveniently than ever," Zeigler said in announcing the acquisition.

FOOD AND BEVERAGE

New Holland Brewing Co. for years has boasted the title of Michigan's largest truly independent brewery. The Holland-based craft beer and spirits brand produced 39,825 barrels in 2024, coming just behind Bellaire-based Short's Brewing Co. with 42,157 barrels.

Comparatively, Bell's Brewery produced 467,000 barrels in 2023. The Kalamazoo-based brewery claimed the title of Michigan's largest independent brewery until it was acquired by Lion Little World Beverages Inc., a division of Japan's Kirin Holdings Co., in 2021.

While Short's is still technically "independent" according to the Brewers Association, the brewery sold a 19.99% equity stake to Lagunitas, a subsidiary of Heineken, in 2017.

The Brewers Association maintains that a brewery must have less than 25% ownership or control by a non-craft beverage alcohol industry member to be deemed "independent."

New Holland remains fully independent under founder Brett VanderKamp's leadership, with no external investment or corporate ownership. The company employs 395 people across its brewpubs, tasting rooms, production campus and corporate offices.

In the world of soft drinks, Faygo maintains its Michigan supremacy. Founded in 1907 in Detroit by Russian immigrants Ben and Perry Feigenson, the company was originally called Feigenson Brothers Bottle Works before it changed to Faygo in the early 20th century for easier labeling.

The company still maintains its headquarters and bottling plant that it opened in 1935 on Gratiot Avenue in Detroit.

Vernors ginger ale, another Michigan-born soft drink brand, is now a subsidiary of Keurig Dr. Pepper, based in Burlington, Massachusetts.

FURNITURE AND HOME GOODS

Despite undergoing several name changes in its 120-year history, office furniture maker MillerKnoll still maintains strong West Michigan ties.

Founded in 1905 as the Star Furniture Co., the company rebranded to Herman Miller Furniture Co. in 1923 after Herman Miller, the father-in-law of then-president D.J. DePree, bought a majority stake in the company.

After Herman Miller acquired Knoll of East Greenville, Pennsylvania, in July 2021 and rebranded to MillerKnoll, the combined company consistently beat out rival Steelcase in annual revenue. But with Steelcase being absorbed into HNI Corp. of Iowa, MillerKnoll still holds the title of largest Michigan-owned furniture company.

In fiscal year 2024, MillerKnoll generated net sales of $3.6 billion.

While not as big as MillerKnoll, Haworth Inc. of Holland, is another major player in the office furniture industry that has maintained its Michigan roots.

Founded in 1948 by G.W. Haworth, the company has developed into a major manufacturer of workplace furnishings, with a global network spanning 150 countries, 400 dealers and 8,000 employees. The company reported $2.5 billion in global sales in 2024.

MEDICAL MANUFACTURING

Stryker Corp. is a global player in the medical technology industry still based in Kalamazoo, where it was founded 84 years ago.

Orthopedist Homer Stryker founded The Orthopedic Frame Co. in 1941 after discovering a need for new medical products to meet patients' needs. The company's first product was the Wedge Turning Frame, which allowed caregivers to turn patients with serious back injuries, while keeping the spine immobilized.

Now known as Stryker Corp., the company has grown into a global medical technology leader with more than 14,200 medical device patents, about 53,000 employees and $22.6 billion in annual revenue.

Pharmaceutical giant Perrigo Corp. remains headquartered in West Michigan 138 years after its founding in Allegan.

The company began in 1887 as a packager and distributor of patented medicines and household items for country stores throughout the Midwest.

While Perrigo currently maintains its operational headquarters in Grand Rapids, the company in 2013 announced a controversial strategy to establish its tax registration in Ireland via an $8.6 billion acquisition of Irish-based Elan Corp.

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ANN ARBOR

Family transforming mental health support for teen athletes after tragedy

Eight years after Miles Jeffrey Roberts' death, the foundation his parents formed in his name is having its third annual champions event, set for Friday night at German Park.

Jackie Smith *jsmith@mlive.com*

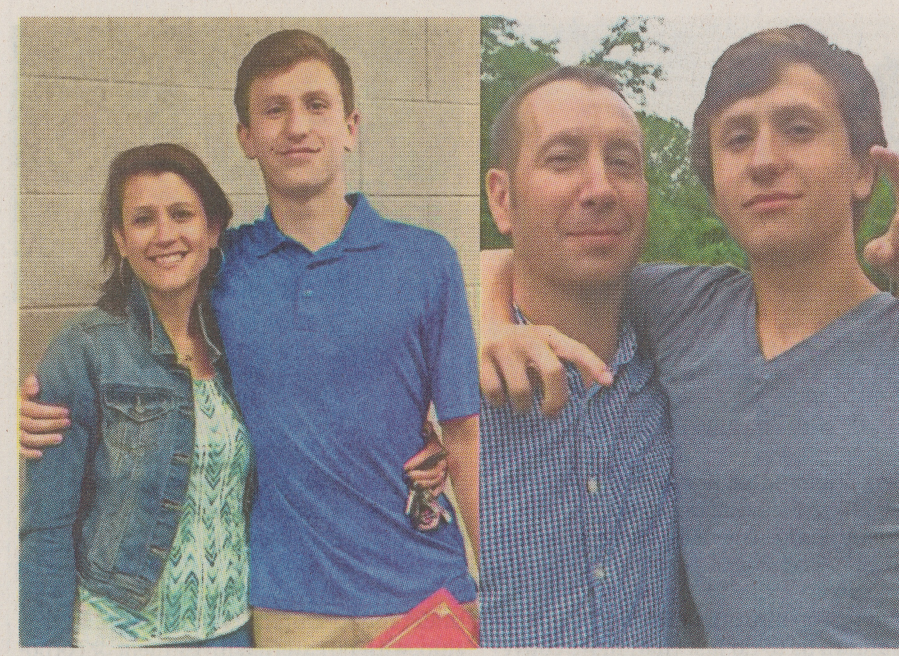
In the six years since starting a foundation named for their late son, Jeff and Kristen Roberts have found the biggest obstacle to young people seeking help for their mental health can also be the most straightforward: knowing how and where to find it.

"We're not creating any new clinical, therapeutic outlets. We're directing them to existing resources that have been in place, that the school district has," Jeff Roberts said during an interview Sept. 10.

"There are so many students out there (who) don't know ... or don't feel comfortable," he said. "That's where this program is breaking some barriers and breaking down some walls with respect to students' ability to take that necessary step."

The couple launched the Miles Jeffrey Roberts Foundation two years after losing Miles, a 15-year-old student athlete at Skyline High School in Ann Arbor who died by suicide in May 2017.

Since then, with partners like the University of Michigan's Eisenberg Family Depression Center and Ann Arbor Public Schools, they have specialized in working with teams of student athletes — groups of like-minded young people who, Jeff said, could learn to help spot signs of mental health issues in themselves and their peers in shared, challenging settings.



Kristen, left, and Jeff Roberts are each shown individually with their late son, Miles, whose death inspired the Miles Jeffrey Roberts Foundation, which supports mental health education in high school youth, particularly student athletes, in Ann Arbor. *Submitted photo*

Friday marked the foundation's third annual tailgate event to support the group's champions, who lead programing to support athletes' social and emotional well-being.

"He played hockey, played football, he wrestled, he swam, he played basketball," Jeff Roberts said of Miles. "And he was really such a great teammate that it dawned on us to say, 'Let's focus on teams. Let's focus on people that are all collectively joining to achieve a common goal.'"

Finding an early niche with student athletes, Jeff and Kristen Roberts said they started at Skyline before also working with teams at Pioneer and Huron high schools. They would provide presentations to teams, handing out a questionnaire to students before and after to measure their levels of comfort in accessing mental health resources. So far, Jeff said, they're finding more students are increasingly comfortable speaking up about concerns for themselves and others.

"We then ask all of the students if they're interested in a more dedicated session with a resource," he said. Out of hundreds of students addressed, he said more than 40 who need some additional support have wanted to follow up.

Will Heininger, a former Michigan football defensive end, U-M alumnus and Ann Arbor native who has shared publicly his own mental health struggles, is an outreach coordinator at the university's depression center. He has been there about 10 years and is connected to the Roberts' foundation as one of its champions.

Although they do occasionally work with adults, Heininger said he's seen an evolution: Middle and high schoolers are conversing more easily about their mental health than before.

As a student athlete, he said, he experienced major depression and anxiety, and he learned these were medical issues that could be treated just like physical injuries.

It was a realization that supported him "really going to the bottom of the bottom" to not only thrive in the classroom and on the field, Heininger said, but reach "heights that I never knew were possible." That background, he said, lends him credibility working with young people.

"Everything from, 'Hey, I'm pretty good most days whenever I compete or in a high-pressure situation in the fourth-quarter,' or something like that," Heininger said, "all the way to, 'I wish that could care about the game I have later, but I've been struggling to get out of bed and brush my teeth and get to school in the morning.'

"We want to meet them where they are," he said.

Jeff and Kristen Roberts talked about reaching young people the same way. It's a model, Kristen said, they are finding works with more than just student athletes.

"We started in athletics because that was Miles' experience, but we're really seeing and hearing from kids (who) are also in other clubs," Kristen said.

They include activities like robotics and band, and this really resonates with those groups as well, Kristen said.

"Like a cohort that are up against similar challenges," she said. "We're really seeking that and seeing opportunities to continue to elevate and grow within each school in terms of that setting."

Jeff Roberts credits specialists like Heininger, AAPS and grant support through Washtenaw County Community Mental Health with helping to expand the scope of their work.

They're also looking to collaborate with 5 Healthy Towns, another foundation, to share resources with school populations in Chelsea, Dexter, Grass Lake, Manchester and Stockbridge, he said.

"That wouldn't be a limiting factor for us, and what we're attempting to do is create a playbook that could just be handed off," Jeff said. Each school "could then slightly target their group of students as needed."

For more information about the foundation, go to mjrfoundation.org.

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FROM THE COVER

BUDGET IMPASSE

Whitmer rejects House GOP budget, warns of tariff fallout

Continues from A1

feed kids at school, support moms and babies. And it can deliver on the House's goals, too. They want to trim spending, they want to fix local roads and increase transparency.

"All of that is doable. If the Legislature sends me a budget that reflects these shared priorities, I will sign it."

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer delivers a speech on Michigan's budget and economy on Tuesday, saying the uncertain fiscal climate in the state is a "man-made storm of uncertainty that hits Michigan hard." *Devin Anderson-Torrez, MLive.com*

SIX YEARS AGO

The last time the state faced a shutdown was in 2019. While a shutdown was avoided, the Whitmer administration was prepared to halt road construction projects, close state parks and secretary of state branches and suspend other services.

Budget negotiations between Whitmer's office, the House and the Senate have stalled this year amid funding and policy differences, lower revenue projections and a desire for a long-term road-funding plan.

While Whitmer and Senate Democrats have proposed spending increases for state departments, House Republicans last month introduced a $54.6 billion government spending plan that would slash millions of dollars from nearly every state department and cut thousands of government positions.

Republicans say a majority of the positions proposed to be axed are "ghost employees" that remain on the payrolls despite not being filled.

House Republicans have said their budget cuts "waste, fraud and abuse" and redirects those dollars to priorities such as public safety and a $3.4 billion plan to repair the state's crumbling bridges and roads.

In the hours leading up to Whitmer's speech, several state department leaders broke their silence on the effects of the House Republican budget proposal, sending out news releases that declared the GOP plan would harm government services and operations. The department leaders serve as appointees in the governor's administration.

Previously, state departments contacted by MLive directed inquiries about the Republican budget to the State Budget Office, which declined to provide specific department-by-department budget impacts.

In responding to Whitmer's speech, Senate Majority Leader Winnie Brinks, D-Grand Rapids, implied that House Republicans want to take the state closer to a government shutdown in hopes of getting their budget priorities enacted.

"While the governor and I both are experienced in passing balanced budgets on time, there are those who would rather wait out the clock and shut down the state in hopes of getting what they want," Brinks said. "That's not how we do business, and I will not be pressured into giving up on the things Michiganders care about — regardless of party affiliation — like school meals for their kids, support for new moms and babies and access to quality, affordable health care and roads. I'm proud to have a partner in this fight with Gov. Whitmer, and we're going to get the job done."

House Speaker Matt Hall, R-Richland Township, said the House Republican budget proves the state can fix its roads and bridges by eliminating "fraud, waste and abuse" in government. He said he thinks he and Whitmer can strike a deal on the budget.

"House Republicans identified billions of dollars in waste, including thousands of phantom employees in our state departments and hundreds of grants for things like puppet art theaters and barbershop quartets," Hall said. "Our state has been funding that nonsense while our local roads and bridges continue to fall apart. It's not right."

TARIFF TROUBLE

Passing a state budget this year isn't just about avoiding a shutdown or investing in Michigan. It's also about protecting the state's businesses and residents from the economic damage being caused by Trump's tariffs on dozens of the country's trading partners, Whitmer said.

Michigan's largest trading partners, Canada and Mexico, have tariffs of 35% and 25%, respectively, imposed on their goods. Those countries are key to Michigan's auto industry, with some auto parts crossing the Canadian border multiple times during production and being taxed at each crossing, Whitmer has previously said.

"In some cases, they aren't just scaling back," Whitmer said. "With tariffs on Canada and Mexico higher than the ones on Japan, auto companies are considering building cars and products entirely overseas to pay one tariff on one product. Dangerously ironic, the national tariff chaos does the opposite of the administration's goal.

"Companies are cutting, not creating jobs in Michigan. Costs are going up, not down. The price of a new car rises by thousands. Or your dollar won't go as far."

Whitmer said tariffs, when used strategically and precisely, can encourage investment and job growth in Michigan and the United States. On Tuesday, she again likened Trump's approach to tariffs to a hammer, rather than a scalpel.

"Companies that have invested in Michigan for decades brought up uncertainty caused by our national tariff policy," Whitmer said. "They want to invest in Michigan, but tariffs are keeping them on the sidelines. Uncertainty breeds paralysis and paralysis costs jobs."

Whitmer has talked with Trump several times about providing some relief on tariffs, but ultimately the state has no power over the policy. That's why it's important, she said, that the state swiftly pass a budget that continues progress on fixing roads and investments in education and public safety.

"While we can't control the global tariff war, we must do what we can to make life a little easier for Michiganders and reduce uncertainty," she said. "As Michiganders watch the news, they tend to ask a simple question — what does this mean for me and my family? Failing to get this done means more uncertainty, higher costs and less jobs."

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BUSINESS

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ASK THE FOOL

Splitting shares

Shares of Microsoft seem to cost more than $500 apiece — does that mean the company will do a stock split? And will that double my money? — Y.C., Decorah, Iowa

Microsoft may indeed split its stock this year or next. No announcement has been made as of this writing, though.

Microsoft has executed nine stock splits since going public in 1986. Seven were in the 1990s, and the most recent one was way back in 2003, when the shares split 2-for-1. The recent price of $500 per share is far above the pre-split prices for the past splits, so expecting a split to come along is quite reasonable.

A stock split won't double your money, though — when a stock splits, shareholders each get more shares, but the price per share falls proportionally. Imagine you own 100 shares of Microsoft, and it splits 2-for-1 when the price is $500 per share. You'll end up with 200 shares, but the share price will suddenly be around $250. That makes your total value $5,000 pre-split (100 times $500) and $5,000 post-split (200 times $250).

Companies often split shares to make them more affordable to the masses (among other reasons), but remember that you can always buy just one share — and via many good brokerages, you may even be able to buy a fraction of a share.

Where can I learn more about real estate investment trusts (REITs)? — T.S., Las Cruces, New Mexico

Try reading "Real Estate Investing for Dummies," by Eric Tyson and Robert S. Griswold (For Dummies, $25), or "REIT Investing for Beginners: How To Get Rich in Real Estate Without Owning a Single Physical Property" (Freeman Publications, $20). You could also visit REIT.com.

Want more information about stocks? Send us an email to foolnews@fool.com.

FOOL'S SCHOOL

What's a P/E ratio?

As you learn how to study stocks, you'll find that the price-to-earnings (P/E) ratio can help you get a rough idea of how overvalued or undervalued a stock is.

You'll find P/E ratios for stocks already calculated for you at financial websites such as Finance.Yahoo.com, but here's the math: Take the stock's current price per share and divide it by the earnings per share (EPS) over the past 12 months. (For a forward-looking P/E, divide by the expected EPS over the coming year.)

So if Crusty's Crab Shack is trading at $60 per share with its EPS for the last four reported quarters ("trailing 12 months") totaling $4, you'd divide $60 by $4 to get a P/E ratio of 15. Note that P/E ratios go up when the stock's price rises or the EPS falls — and vice versa. The P/E ratio tells you how much you'd pay per dollar of earnings if you bought the stock. In finance-speak, a stock with a P/E of 15 might be referred to as "trading at a multiple of 15."

Generally speaking, the lower the P/E ratio, the lower — and therefore more appealing — the stock's valuation, though an extremely low P/E should make you wonder what troubles the company is facing. An extremely high P/E can reflect very low earnings or investors piling into the stock and driving up its price via high demand for the shares.

P/E ratios vary widely by industry, though. Slower-growing and/or capital-intensive industries such as homebuilding and steelmaking tend to have lower average P/E ratios; industries such as semiconductors, entertainment and software tend to have higher ones. Unprofitable companies don't have P/E ratios, as they have no earnings and you can't divide by zero.

But don't invest using P/E or other valuation metrics alone. Always assess multiple factors, such as revenue and earnings growth rates, debt levels, profit margins and competitive advantages.

MY DUMBEST INVESTMENT

Burned to a CRISPR

My dumbest investments happened after I read the book "The Code Breaker" by Walter Isaacson — about the Nobel Prize winner Jennifer Doudna and the science of gene editing with CRISPR ("clustered regularly interspaced short palindromic repeats") technology. I invested in several of the companies mentioned in the book, thinking each would soon release viable commercial products and see its valuation skyrocket. I waited for a few years as I watched each stock decline in price. I eventually ended up selling at a significant loss. I learned to stick with companies that already have viable products, sound financials and strong free cash flow. One day these companies may fit that narrative, but until then, I will invest in what I know are actual viable businesses and not potential future businesses. — O.A.M., online

New technologies can be exciting, especially when it seems like there will be a lot of money made with them, and some companies in those realms will turn out to be great investments.

But it can take a long time before it's clear which companies will be the biggest winners and which once-promising companies will flame out. If you can't wait to invest, spreading your dollars over several companies and not investing too much in one technology can be smart moves.

Do you have a lesson learned the hard way? Boil it down to 100 words (or less) and send it to fool@fool.com.

THE MOTLEY FOOL TAKE

A growing giant

Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co. (NYSE: TSM) is a major supplier for leading chip companies such as Nvidia, Advanced Micro Devices and Broadcom. While TSMC's second-quarter revenue grew 44% year over year, steadily improving gross profit margins and a disciplined cost structure fueled even more acceleration for its bottom line: Earnings per share grew by nearly 61%.

Investments in infrastructure for artificial intelligence (AI) are expected to reach $6.7 trillion by next decade. With TSMC's huge revenue growth and estimated two-thirds share of the global chip foundry market, it appears well-positioned to capitalize on these secular tailwinds and acquire even more market share over the next several years.

Despite the company's jaw-dropping growth and robust outlook, it recently traded at a forward price-to-earnings ratio below 25. Not only is this lower than most of its forward P/E ratios in 2024, but it's also a meaningful discount compared to other leading chip stocks.

There are some risks — especially because TSMC is based in Taiwan. That exposes the company to the impacts of any changes in U.S. tariff policy, as well as the looming threat of China taking military action. Still, it's tough to find a better growth stock in the semiconductor industry for risk-tolerant, long-term investors. (The Motley Fool owns shares of and recommends Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing.)

Write to us! Send questions for Ask the Fool, Dumbest (or Smartest) Investments (up to 100 words), and your Trivia entries to Fool@fool.com or via regular mail c/o this newspaper, attn: The Motley Fool. Sorry, we can't provide individual financial advice.

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LAST WEEK'S TRIVIA ANSWER

I trace my roots back to 1930, when my founder opened a "Food Store" in Winter Haven, Florida. A decade later, he built a "state-of-the-art food palace of marble, glass and stucco." By 1950, I had 20 locations; I soon debuted private-label items. In 1986, I opened my 300th store. Today, I'm America's largest employee-owned company (so I'm not publicly traded on the stock market), with more than 260,000 people working at more than 1,400 stores across the South. I raked in nearly $60 billion in 2024. I've been named a great place to work many times. Who am I? (Answer: Publix Super Markets)

Know the answer? Send it to us with Foolish Trivia on the top and you'll be entered into a drawing for a nifty prize!

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SAVINGS ANGEL

What you need to know as airline compensation rules get rolled back

Josh Elledge *savingsangel.com*

If you've ever had a flight canceled at the last minute or sat through hours of delays with little explanation, you know how disruptive air travel can be. For a time, there was significant momentum toward establishing stronger protections, rules that would've required airlines to compensate passengers for disruptions that were within their control.

That momentum has now shifted. The Department of Transportation recently confirmed it's backing away from plans that would have forced airlines, both U.S. and international carriers, to provide mandatory compensation and certain "essential services" during major disruptions.

In other words, if your flight is canceled or delayed due to the airline's issues (staffing shortages, maintenance problems, scheduling errors, etc.), you won't automatically be entitled to reimbursement or compensation. It's back to the old system, where you often have to advocate for yourself to get any relief.

WHAT'S NOT CHANGING

It's important to understand that passengers still have rights; they just don't go as far as automatic payouts. Airlines are still required to refund you if they cancel a flight and you choose not to rebook. They also have obligations if you're bumped from a flight because of overbooking.

But for delays, long tarmac waits, or situations where the airline technically provides "re-accommodation" but not much else, you're largely on your own. Airlines may offer meal vouchers, hotel stays, or credit at their discretion, but they're not required to.

Other countries, like those in the European Union, have stricter rules that guarantee cash compensation when flights are delayed or canceled due to an airline's fault. The U.S. is not moving in that direction.

HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF WHEN FLYING

So what can travelers do to avoid being left stranded, or at least minimize the pain when things go wrong? There are a few ways you can protect yourself, both proactively and in the case of a disruption.

First, book with a strategically chosen credit card. Many premium travel credit cards come with built-in protections that kick in when flights are delayed or canceled. This can include reimbursement for meals, hotels, and even replacement items if your bags are delayed. The coverage is automatic as long as you pay for your ticket with that card, but most consumers don't realize these perks exist. If you have a credit card attached to any airline, try using that card with that airline.

Before your next trip, check what your card offers. Some require delays of a certain length (usually six to 12 hours) before coverage applies. Save receipts and file a claim as soon as you get home.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

Also, consider investing in travel insurance. For routine domestic flights, buying separate insurance may not make sense. But if you're traveling internationally, booking an expensive vacation, or connecting to a cruise or tour, a small travel insurance policy can protect you from major losses.

Look for policies that specifically cover delays and cancellations caused by the airline. Many also cover baggage issues and medical emergencies, which can provide peace of mind far beyond flight disruptions.

It's also important to know the airline's policies ahead of time. Even without strict federal rules, airlines have customer service commitments they've published publicly. Some will cover hotel stays for overnight delays caused by their own issues. Others offer vouchers or miles.

Before you fly, review your airline's "customer service plan," which is usually on their website. Knowing what they promise upfront makes it easier to hold them accountable when disruptions happen.

KEEP GOOD RECORDS

Beyond that, document everything. If your flight is delayed or canceled, start keeping records right away. Take screenshots of delay announcements, keep boarding passes, and note the reason the airline gives you.

Documentation matters if you want to file a complaint later or dispute charges with your credit card company.

If you do experience a problem with your flight(s), be polite but firm. Gate agents and customer service representatives are under pressure, but they often have discretion to offer meal vouchers, hotel accommodations, or flight credits. The key is to be persistent, clear, and polite. Escalating calmly, rather than with frustration, will almost always lead to better results.

It can be a challenge to keep your cool during high-stress travel situations, but remember that these employees are also under stress during these events, and a respectful attitude can go a long way.

If you're denied help you believe you're entitled to, ask for the reason in writing. Sometimes that alone can change the outcome.

Ultimately, when you need to, file a formal complaint. If the airline refuses to make things right, you can file a complaint with the Department of Transportation. While this doesn't guarantee compensation, it creates a record.

Airlines are required to respond, and in some cases, the DOT follows up directly. Even if you don't get money back, your complaint adds to the pressure on airlines to improve customer service standards.

BE REALISTIC, BUT BE PREPARED

Not every delay or cancellation is avoidable. Weather, air traffic, and safety concerns will always disrupt flights. But when the cause is clearly within the airline's control, it's frustrating to know that stronger protections aren't coming anytime soon.

That doesn't mean you're powerless. With the right planning, like using credit card protections, considering travel insurance, and staying informed about airline commitments, you can reduce the stress and financial hit when things go wrong.

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NEWS

BELIEVE BLACK VOICES
THIS ISN'T A PHOTO OP
BLACK LIVES MATTER

The Michigan House passed legislation Tuesday that would make protesting in the street without a permit a criminal offense. In this 2021 file photo, protesters march along the Kalamazoo Mall during a Black Lives Matter protest. *MLive.com files*

PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Protest without a permit? Blocking streets could become a crime

"When someone chooses to play stupid games, they should expect to win stupid prizes," state Rep. Alicia St. Germaine said about the controversial bill.

Michael Kransz *mkransz@mlive.com*

LANSING — The Michigan House passed legislation Tuesday that would make protesting in the street without a permit a criminal offense punishable by jail time.

The bill was approved Tuesday in a 61-42 vote largely along party lines, with all Republicans and four Democrats in favor. It is unlikely to pass the Democratic-majority Senate.

The Democrats who voted in favor of the bill are state Reps. Tullio Liberati, of Allen Park, Denise Mentzer, of Mount Clemens, Angela Witwer, of Delta Township, and Mai Xiong, of Warren.

Blocking or impeding traffic is currently a civil infraction with a $100 fine, but the bill's sponsor, state Rep. Alicia St. Germaine, R-Harrison Township, has said that penalty is not enough to deter people from halting traffic, whether it's for a protest or a party.

Under St. Germaine's legislation, impeding or blocking traffic as part of an assembly would be a misdemeanor punishable by up to 93 days in jail and a $5,000 fine. Critics note that the bill does not define what constitutes an "assembly."

St. Germaine called the freedom to express opinions through rallies and protests "one of the greatest privileges we enjoy in this country." However, she said, that right doesn't extend to unlawfully disrupting the lives and safety of others.

"The line must be drawn when individuals intentionally block roadways," she said in a floor speech. "When people do this, it interferes with their ability to get to work, get home from work, pick up your kids from school, catch a flight, getting to the airport, going to a funeral, a family emergency, getting to the hospital or a medical emergency.

"... These disruptions can be the difference between life and death. Unfortunately, we have seen a growing number of situations where that line has been crossed."

Opponents of the bill, such as the American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan, say criminalizing street protests would have a chilling effect on First Amendment rights of free speech and assembly.

"Michigan's constitution protects the people's right to speak, assemble and petition — not just when it is convenient or politically popular," said state Rep. Kara Hope, D-Holt. "This Republican legislation takes conduct that is currently a civil infraction and turns it into a crime with jail time. That is a profound shift in how our state treats dissent and loyal opposition. It risks chilling lawful protest through vague language and selective enforcement.

"In effect, this bill is about criminalizing First Amendment rights, not protecting public safety."

Hope said the First Amendment wasn't designed for convenience, comfort or maintaining the status quo and that it was born out of revolt against King George III.

"These rights were designed for times of dissent and dissatisfaction, and our nation's history is filled with momentous examples," Hope said. "Suffragists filling the streets, labor activists picketing outside factories, young people demonstrating against war, civil rights marchers crossing the bridge in Selma, Alabama.

"House Bill 4664 would criminalize all of these forms of assembly. None of those demonstrations was polite or perfectly timed to appease the powerful or appeal to the apathetic, but all were essential."

Hope said the legislation is unconstitutionally vague because it doesn't define assembly. She said it would leave people unsure of what conduct is prohibited.

St. Germaine has said her bill is intended to protect people in the street and drivers approaching street assemblies.

She said drivers aren't trained on what to do when they encounter a crowd in the street, and such situations can escalate, increasing the risk of people being struck.

"No one should be placed in a position where they fear for their safety simply because they were trying to get home, to work or to help a loved one," she said.

Currently, someone can be charged with misdemeanor disorderly conduct for blocking traffic, but St. Germaine said the charge is vague.

One of the last times Michigan saw widespread, spontaneous demonstrations in the streets was in 2020, when people called for justice in the Minneapolis police killing of George Floyd and demanded greater accountability.

"This legislation does not seek to silence voices or chill protest," St. Germaine said. "It seeks to protect the public safety and deter dangerous behavior.

"There are countless legal, safe and effective ways to make your voice heard in this state. Blocking a roadway shouldn't be one of them.

"To be blunt, when someone chooses to play stupid games, they should expect to win stupid prizes. And, in this case, that prize may well be a ride to the jail and a very hefty fine."

MICHIGAN TOURISM

Campground extends its season for more fall colors

The Northern Michigan state park could be a perfect stay for the autumnal equinox.

Lindsay Moore *lmoore@mlive.com*

CARP LAKE — Campsites right at the tip of the Lower Peninsula are extending their season, giving leaf peepers an extra week of fall color.

Wilderness State Park in Emmet County is leaving its Lake Michigan campgrounds open until Oct. 20 this year.

Camping dates between Oct. 13 and Oct. 20 became available in the reservation system on Wednesday.

The East, West Lakeshore and full hook-up campgrounds extended their seasons until the campground shuts off its water, so the modern bathrooms will be available until Oct. 20.

Just 15 minutes from Mackinaw City, the Northern Michigan campground is forecast to hit peak color around Oct. 7-14.

The Tunnel of Trees runs for 22 miles along M-119 between Harbor Springs and Cross Village in Northern Michigan. *Submitted by Petoskey Area Visitors Burea.*

On your way up, drive through the Tunnel of Trees. About 40 minutes away from Wilderness State Park is the curving 22-mile stretch of M-119 between Harbor Springs and Cross Village.

Both of the state park's Lakeshore modern campgrounds have been renovated since 2019 and have electrical hook-ups with 50-amp, 30- or 20-amp service.

East Lakeshore Modern Campground has 65 sites and modern amenities including an accessible toilet and shower building, dishwashing, a sanitation station, an accessible playground and four Americans with Disabilities Act-compliant accessible sites with concrete pads.

West Lakeshore has 71 sites, with many sites directly overlooking the shoreline. The area features an accessible toilet and shower building.

Wilderness State Park is also a dark sky preserve, making it an optimal spot to see northern lights.

Prime times to see the northern lights are the spring and fall equinoxes, MLive meteorologist Mark Torregrossa said.

This year's autumnal equinox is Monday.

At the equinoxes, the tilted axis of the Earth lines up opposite of the solar wind. This configuration allows the magnetic energy from the sun to more easily get absorbed into Earth's magnetic field at the start of spring and fall.

Double check availability for your trip and campsite reservations online through midnrreservations.com.

MICHIGAN EDUCATION

New state school chief signs contract, starts in December

Glenn Maleyko will replace Michael Rice, who is retiring from the position Oct. 3.

Dylan Goetz *dgoetz@mlive.com*

LANSING —Dearborn Public Schools Superintendent Glenn Maleyko will officially become Michigan's next state schools superintendent.

Maleyko reached a three-year contract agreement to become the state's next state superintendent on Wednesday. He will begin Dec. 8, according to an announcement from the Michigan Department of Education.

"I am thrilled to have the opportunity to support children and families, educators and other school staff at all of Michigan's public schools," Maleyko said. "From my experience in Dearborn Public Schools and the relationships I have with educators across the state, I know that local districts, the Michigan Department of Education, and the State Board of Education are all strongly committed to doing whatever we can to improve student achievement.

"We already have much positive momentum — as evidenced by the metrics that track progress to meeting the eight goals in Michigan's Top 10 Strategic Education Plan — and can do even better working together."

Maleyko will replace Michael Rice, who is retiring from the position on Oct. 3. Sue Carnell will serve as the interim state superintendent until Maleyko's December start date.

Maleyko was selected by the state school board during a special meeting on Aug. 26.

The new superintendent has 30 years of experience in Dearborn Public Schools, which is the state's third-largest school district by enrollment.

He has worked as a central office administrator, building principal and teacher. He has served as superintendent since 2015.

Maleyko was president of the Michigan Association of Superintendents and Administrators for the 2023-24 school year. He also was on the original steering committee for the Top 10 Strategic Education Plan.

While superintendent at Dearborn, the district's graduation rates reached 95%, and six of its schools were named U.S. Department of Education Blue Ribbon Schools.

Maleyko has a doctorate in philosophy in educational leadership and policy studies from Wayne State University, an educational specialist degree in educational leadership and a master's degree in curriculum and instruction from University of Detroit Mercy. He holds a bachelor's degree in history and political science from the University of Windsor.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Missing man found dead in U.P. woods

Justine Lofton *jlofton@mlive.com*

GULLIVER — Foul play is not suspected in the death of a Southwest Michigan man who disappeared into a forest and was found dead 16 days later, WLUC-TV in Marquette has reported.

Timothy Lawrence, 51, of Augusta, was found dead on Monday near Lang Road in Gulliver, about 12 miles east of Manistique in the Upper Peninsula, where he initially went missing on Aug. 30.

Authorities previously said Lawrence abandoned his vehicle on Lang Road and was seen running into the forest. He may have been experiencing a mental health crisis.

"This is not the outcome we were hoping for," said Lt. Ben Eckola, public information officer for the Michigan State Police Eighth District, which covers the Upper Peninsula. "Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and loved ones of Mr. Lawrence during this incredibly difficult time. The (state police) will continue to offer support and assistance to the family in any way we can."

The cause of circumstances of Lawrence's death have not been released.

WEATHER

ANIMALS

This undersized eastern box turtle has a near-cult following

Michael Brice-Saddler *Washington Post*

Park Ranger Kerry Ferguson, takes a photo of Rock Creek Park Superintendent Brian Joyner with Pokey, an Eastern box turtle. *Photos by Craig Hudson, for Washington Post*

When she first met the eastern box turtle named Pokey, Cleo Bowen-Wiggins was still in diapers — far too young to recognize she was in the presence of a local celebrity. But, like so many others, she was captivated by the creature, sparking an unlikely friendship that endured for years.

So, there was no question as to whether Bowen-Wiggins, now 15, would attend Pokey's 30th birthday celebration in August. Held at Pokey's home inside the Rock Creek Park Nature Center and Planetarium in D.C., the event doubled as a turtle tribute.

Attendees of all ages wore Pokey hats and ate Pokey-themed cake; they swapped Pokey stories and presented the reptile with hand-drawn birthday cards. Several visitors, like Bowen-Wiggins, had known Pokey their entire life.

But how does an undersized box turtle develop a near-cult following?

"There's just something about him, you know?" Bowen-Wiggins said. "I loved every animal as a kid, and I still do, but it's just really exciting to see Pokey."

Pokey's story began in 1995, when a Rock Creek Park visitor found him as a hatchling on the nature center's porch and brought him inside, fearing he could be run over by a lawn mower. Park employees were unsure if it was best to release him back into the wild, but it soon became clear that Pokey would be vulnerable outside of the nature center.

Pokey, who can fit in the palm of your hand, is now believed to be one-third the size of his peers, in part because he was initially fed meals that lacked sufficient calcium, a nutrient essential for healthy shell growth.

"His growth is stunted because he wasn't eating the wild diet," said Maggie Zadorozny, a retired education specialist for Rock Creek Park who says Pokey's favorite food is earthworms. "The intentions were good, but the execution was inadequate for his proper development."

So, perhaps it is Pokey's miniature stature that's made him such a darling to small children and their parents, offering families an easy lesson on why it is important to eat nutritious foods to grow strong.

Or maybe it's the fact his name is a play off the phrase "slow poke," even though Pokey is rumored to be surprisingly fast, at least in short spurts. This has apparently gotten him into trouble inside the nature center, where he regularly has opportunities to roam the building for exercise, but occasionally slips out of sight.

In one 2023 Instagram post, the nature center said that during a roaming session in the building, Pokey "had somehow managed to elude the park rangers," even though they had "Pokey-proofed" the area.

It turns out Pokey had slipped under the copy machine, only to be discovered when he popped his head back out. Park Ranger Kerry Ferguson said the staff once had to tie a balloon to him to ensure he wouldn't get lost.

"He can really turn on the afterburners," she said.

Ferguson, who organized the party, taught visitors how to properly pet Pokey with a delicate, two-finger touch on the surface of his shell, not on his head or limbs.

After waiting his turn to pet Pokey, 6-year-old James Silverstein offered a more cosmetic rationale for why he is so special: "I like his little legs and claws the most," he said.

Silverstein and his sister, 3-year-old Josie Kaye, were among the large gaggle of children there to present Pokey with colorful drawings and birthday cards. They were added to a collection of gifts for Pokey on display inside the center, where Anna Boucher-Gilbert, 2, visits frequently to see animals and play games.

Asked about her thoughts on the reptile, Boucher-Gilbert hid shyly in the elbow of her dad's sleeve. Yet the two custom birthday cards she made for the turtle said it all: Boucher-Gilbert was the newest member of the Pokey Fan Club.

"Pokey is imprinted on people. He's been handled and talked to since he was a baby, it's probably why he's so sociable," said Zadorozny, the retired education specialist. "He's used to humans interacting with him and he interacts with them."

True to form, Pokey was calm and collected as his growing fan base sang him happy birthday. When Silverstein realized Pokey couldn't blow out the candles, he was more than glad to do so on the turtle's behalf.

Back inside, Pokey enjoyed his special "cake" made with turtle food and sweet potatoes that was packed with calcium.

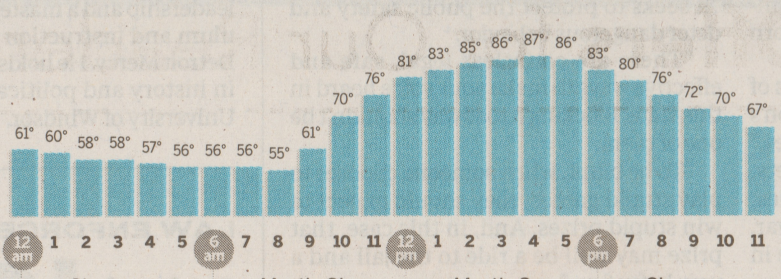
He got to enjoy some earthworms, too.

Ann Arbor weather today

Isolated showers

Partly cloudy with isolated showers

Hourly forecast Sunrise 7:18 a.m. Sunset 7:39 p.m. Moonrise 3:43 a.m. Moonset 6:25 p.m.



Clear 2%
Mostly Clear 11%
Mostly Sunny 11%
Showers 33%

High Low **87° 55°**
Feels like 86° 55°
Average 70°

Winds. 1 mph, SSW
Humidity. 80%

Almanac

Yesterday

High Low **82° 55°**
Average 68°
Precipitation* 0"
Max wind 3 mph, NNE
Wind gust 6 mph
Humidity max. 97%
Humidity min. 32%
Humidity avg. 85%
Dewpoint max. 57°
Dewpoint min. 49°
Dewpoint avg. 53°

Last 30 days

Temp. max. 82°
Temp. min. 41°
Avg. high low 75° 51°
Precipitation* 0.63"
YTD precip.* 18.72"

Moon phases

New Sep. 21
First Sep. 29
Full Oct. 06
Third Oct. 13

**Local information comes from several area weather stations and can vary from sources used elsewhere.*

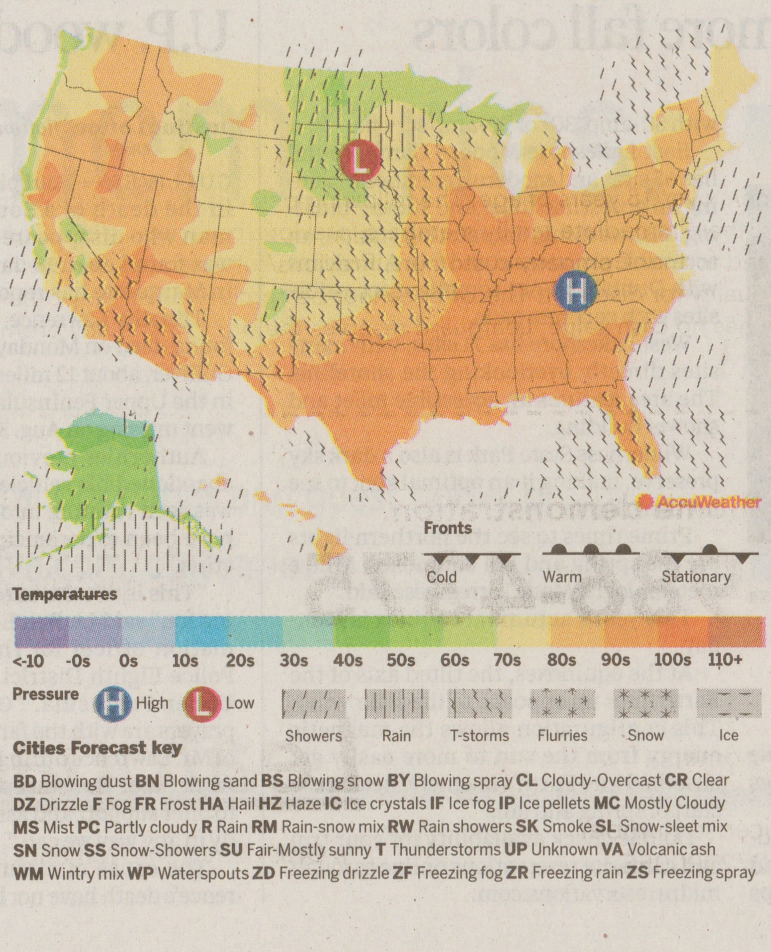
Advance Local, Accuweather and Associated Press graphics. Powered by AerisWeather

09.18.2025

Extended forecast

Tomorrow	**75° 57°**	Partly cloudy with isolated showers	**Wind** 3 mph, NE	**Precipitation** 13% chance
Saturday	**75° 53°**	Partly cloudy	**Wind** 4 mph, E	**Precipitation** 0% chance
Sunday	**81° 58°**	Partly cloudy with scattered showers	**Wind** 4 mph, ESE	**Precipitation** 25% chance
Monday	**79° 61°**	Partly cloudy with scattered showers	**Wind** 5 mph, S	**Precipitation** 32% chance
Tuesday	**78° 60°**	Partly cloudy with scattered showers	**Wind** 5 mph, SSW	**Precipitation** 26% chance
Wednesday	**75° 58°**	Partly cloudy with showers	**Wind** 4 mph, WSW	**Precipitation** 24% chance

National Forecast



Cities Forecast key

BD Blowing dust **BN** Blowing sand **BS** Blowing snow **BY** Blowing spray **CL** Cloudy-Overcast **CR** Clear **DZ** Drizzle **F** Fog **FR** Frost **HA** Hail **HZ** Haze **IC** Ice crystals **IF** Ice fog **IP** Ice pellets **MC** Mostly Cloudy **MS** Mist **PC** Partly cloudy **R** Rain **RM** Rain-snow mix **RW** Rain showers **SK** Smoke **SL** Snow-sleet mix **SN** Snow **SS** Snow-Showers **SU** Fair-Mostly sunny **T** Thunderstorms **UP** Unknown **VA** Volcanic ash **WM** Wintry mix **WP** Waterspouts **ZD** Freezing drizzle **ZF** Freezing fog **ZR** Freezing rain **ZS** Freezing spray

Region	**Yesterday**	**Today**	**Tomorrow**		**Yesterday**	**Today**	**Tomorrow**
Bad Axe	80·54 SU	76·51 RW	66·49 SU	Mack. City	71·60 SU	67·52 RW	62·53 SU
Bay City	81·57 SU	81·57 RW	69·51 PC	Marquette	76·56 T	61·51 PC	60·53 SU
C. Harbor	72·56 PC	63·54 PC	61·56 SU	Marshall	84·54 SU	87·56 SU	79·54 SU
Escanaba	78·55 T	70·49 PC	65·56 PC	Milwaukee	78·64 SU	73·62 PC	69·63 PC
Flint	83·56 SU	85·56 RW	75·50 PC	Mt. Pleasant	84·57 SU	84·55 RW	73·48 PC
Fort Wayne	86·56 SU	88·59 SU	85·59 SU	Muskegon	81·59 SU	79·58 RW	78·56 SU
Grand Rapids	85·59 SU	85·58 RW	79·55 SU	Port Huron	74·55 SU	82·64 RW	67·53 PC
Green Bay	78·58 T	70·53 PC	64·58 PC	Saginaw	83·58 SU	84·57 RW	71·50 PC
Houghton	75·54 SU	66·49 PC	64·53 PC	S.S. Marie	80·58 SU	74·54 PC	66·50 SU
Jackson	85·54 SU	88·56 SU	80·53 SU	South Bend	86·57 SU	87·59 SU	84·62 SU
Kalamazoo	84·57 SU	86·57 SU	80·57 SU	South Haven	79·57 SU	77·58 SU	78·59 SU
Lansing	83·57 SU	86·57 RW	76·52 SU	Toledo	82·58 SU	87·61 SU	74·58 SU
London	80·55 CR	83·59 SU	73·50 SU	Trav. City	81·59 SU	69·54 RW	71·53 SU

U.S.	**Yesterday**	**Today**	**Tomorrow**		**Yesterday**	**Today**	**Tomorrow**
Anchorage	57·48 RW	56·45 RW	56·46 RW	Minneapolis	86·67 T	78·65 T	74·63 T
Atlanta	87·66 T	89·65 SU	91·69 SU	Nashville	93·64 SU	95·65 SU	95·67 SU
Boston	69·60 RW	74·61 RW	75·54 SU	New York City	69·66 T	77·67 RW	80·62 SU
Charlotte	84·63 PC	86·63 SU	90·65 CR	New Orleans	89·74 RW	89·75 SU	90·76 SU
Chicago	77·63 SU	77·64 SU	76·65 PC	Orlando	87·73 T	88·73 T	88·74 T
Cleveland	78·59 SU	79·62 SU	72·57 SU	Palm Springs	101·80 T	91·78 T	94·78 T
Dallas	95·74 T	94·73 T	92·73 T	Phoenix	101·82 PC	98·81 T	98·81 T
Denver	72·49 T	73·48 RW	81·54 SU	Pittsburgh	82·57 SU	86·60 SU	85·58 SU
Detroit	80·60 SU	86·64 RW	73·57 PC	Portland	79·56 SU	76·54 SU	80·55 SU
Honolulu	87·78 RW	87·78 RW	87·78 RW	San Diego	79·71 T	81·69 T	79·68 T
Houston	93·75 T	90·74 T	91·75 RW	San Francisco	77·60 SU	70·61 T	72·60 RW
Indianapolis	88·63 SU	89·63 SU	90·67 SU	San Juan	85·79 T	85·79 T	85·80 T
Kansas City	89·68 T	84·66 T	80·65 T	Seattle	75·56 SU	70·56 SU	73·56 SU
Las Vegas	99·78 SU	92·74 T	91·75 T	St. Louis	92·62 CR	93·69 SU	91·68 T
Los Angeles	88·69 RW	83·66 T	82·66 T	Tampa	89·72 T	91·73 T	92·76 T
Miami	86·77 T	85·78 T	87·80 T	Washington	68·64 RW	82·62 PC	87·64 SU

World	**Yesterday**	**Today**	**Tomorrow**		**Yesterday**	**Today**	**Tomorrow**
Acapulco	78·66 RW	79·67 RW	78·67 RW	Nassau	87·81 RW	86·81 RW	86·81 RW
Amsterdam	65·60 R	69·60 R	80·63 SU	Paris	72·56 PC	77·57 PC	85·68 SU
Buenos Aires	76·58 PC	75·59 PC	73·57 RW	Prague	65·55 PC	74·57 R	78·56 CR
Dublin	66·55 RW	67·62 RW	64·51 R	Riyadh	105·82 PC	106·88 CR	109·85 CR
Jerusalem	83·65 SU	84·66 CR	82·63 CR	Rome	86·68 PC	85·66 SU	87·68 SU
Ljubljana	70·50 PC	75·52 SU	80·55 SU	Seoul	73·66 RW	73·65 RW	68·62 RW
London	67·63 R	71·59 MC	77·59 SU	Tokyo	93·80 SU	96·71 R	78·68 PC
Madrid	94·69 PC	95·72 CR	92·72 RW	Toronto	77·57 SU	80·57 RW	67·52 SU
Mexico City	69·57 RW	72·56 RW	73·57 RW	Vancouver	71·52 CR	66·53 SU	67·59 SU

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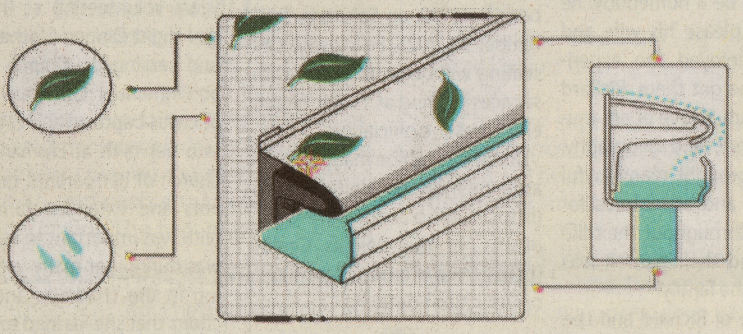

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OBITUARIES

Today's Obituaries

For more information go to MLive.com.

DELCAMP Richard Earl, 98, Ann Arbor (Nie Family Funeral Homes)
SNUVERINK Helen F., 93, Ann Arbor (A.J. Desmond & Sons Funeral Directors - Vasu, Rodgers & Connell Chapel)
SPALDING Ruth Elaine, Ann Arbor

DELCAMP, RICHARD EARL

2/18/1927 - 9/9/2025
Ann Arbor, Michigan

Richard Earl Delcamp was born on February 18, 1927, in Monroe, Michigan (the youngest of four children) to parents George Raymond Delcamp and Anna Ethel Smock, and passed away peacefully in his Ann Arbor, Michigan home on September 9, 2025, after being visited by his loving friends and family in the days prior.

Immediately after graduating high school, Richard enlisted in the Army Air Corps (now the Air Force), and served as a radio operator on a C-47 troop transport plane in China. Following his honorable discharge, he earned a bachelor's degree in fine arts and master's degree in education.

Richard went on to work for Ford Motor Company as a System's Analyst for the better part of 32 years, except for a few years in administration at the University of Michigan, finally retiring from Ford in 1989.

Richard was a quiet, gentle, and unassuming man with a keen sense of love, respect, and loyalty for his family and friends, though he was splendidly competitive when put in front of the chess board, poker with pocket change, or euchre for the honor of the win.

Richard was extraordinarily special in his joyful appreciation and peaceful presence to those around him. Although Richard preferred to be a homebody, he traveled to please his wife and ultimately enjoyed the experience once he got there. Richard and Lee's mutual love of art, museums, history, and geography, and more, brought many joyful experiences and adventures for the couple throughout their life together, and their garden was the envy of the family.

The home of Richard and Lee was the steadfast staple for family gatherings, including Christmas (where Richard liked to wear his "Saint Dick" Santa hat) and pass out gifts to everyone. The pair opened their home to family whenever they needed a place of peace or just wanted to visit and would wait on the front porch waving until down the driveway and out of sight, later retreating to the front window and doing the same.

His deep faith, devotion, and loyalty created a bedrock of stability and sensibility for everyone who received the pleasure of his company, and he will be profoundly missed by his beloved and loving family and friends.

Richard was preceded in death by his sisters, Bonita Delcamp, Frances (Delcamp) Rae; and his brother, Clifford Delcamp; and his stepdaughter, Alice Whitney.

He is survived by his loving wife of 52 years, Lee Delcamp; his sons, James "Jim" Delcamp and John Delcamp; his daughter, Janine Delcamp; his stepchildren, Anne Wade, Michael "Mike" Sutherby, and Kendal "Ken" Sutherby; as well as many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren.

Memorial services will be held at Unity Church of Ann Arbor, 4599 Carpenter Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48108, on Saturday, September 20, 2025. Fellowship and seating will begin at 10 am with services starting at 11 am. Reverend Ernestine officiating.

Donations can be made in Richard's memory to Unity Church (https://unitya2.org/share-your-gifts/) or the Delonis Center (https://www.annarborshelter.org/donation-options).

Nie
FAMILY FUNERAL HOME &
CREMATION SERVICE, INC.

SNUVERINK, HELEN F.

JANUARY 8, 1932 - SEPTEMBER 13, 2025
Ann Arbor

Helen F. Snuverink, 93, passed away unexpectedly on Saturday, September 13, 2025.

Helen was born on January 8, 1932 to Adolph and Sophie Wiese and was a life-long resident of Ann Arbor. She was active in the Saline Area Senior Center and enjoyed wood carving, painting and ceramics. Her family and friends will greatly miss her.

Helen was proceeded in death by her husband John (Jack) and is survived by her daughter Lynn Snuverink (Leigh Scott), son Scott (Laura) Snuverink, grandchildren Ryan (Rachel) Snuverink, Ashley (Jonathan) Flatt and great grandson Logan Flatt.

At her request, there will be no funeral or memorial service. Burial will take place privately at Bethlehem Cemetery. Contributions in her memory may be made to the organization of your choice.

SPALDING, RUTH ELAINE

Ruth Elaine (Wolter) Spalding, 97, of Ypsilanti, MI died on September 13, 2025 of natural causes. She was born August 24, 1928, the seventh of eight children, to Otto and Agnes (Suger) Wolter. Ruth married Martin John Spalding June 24,1950. Together they raised five children. Upon graduation from Ypsilanti High School in 1946, she went to work as a statistical typist at Kaiser Fraiser Automobile factory in Willow Run. After the birth of her second child, she stayed home to take care of her growing family and devoted the rest of her life to them and her circle of friends of all ages.

Ruth will be remembered for her sense of humor, quick wit and ability to sing all the words to most songs and hymns written before 1970. As she raised her family, she found time to volunteer as a candy striper at Beyer Hospital and spent at least 10 years volunteering at the Tuesday Night Dinner, Clothes Closet and serving on Church Council at Emmanuel Lutheran Church. She was baptized and catechized into her faith at Emmanuel, the church of her parents, grandparents and extended family. Her faith was important to her, and it was during her many years singing in the children's and youth choirs that she learned to memorize and love all the hymns.

She loved her backyard because of the many songbirds that flocked to her feeders. The wild birds brought her much joy throughout the years. She once had a red-wing crossbill come to her yard, it was out of its northern range and sick. The University of Michigan Ornithology Department instructed her to bring it inside and try to nurse it back to health. Unfortunately, the bird passed but was a perfect specimen, so it went on display at the U of M museum with her name on it.

Ruth's loving heart and singing will be missed by those that survive her: Children, Martin, Mark, Richard, Eric (Cecilia) Spalding and Amy (William) Dammers. Grandchildren: Ruth, James, Eric Otto, Holly, Noah and Liam. Two great-grandchildren Otto and Melody. Also, special friend, John Dammers.

Preceding her in death are her husband of 51 years, Martin John Spalding; Siblings: Helen Hubble, Martha Daschner, Edward Wolter, Florence Woodside, Evelyn Bancroft, Marion Grace, and Robert Wolter.

A funeral service will be held 11 am Friday, September 19, 2025 at Stark Funeral Professionals (101 S. Washington St., Ypsilanti). Visitation will begin at 9:30a am. Ruth will be laid to rest in Highland Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Ypsilanti – Clothes Closet/Pantry on the memo line or online at Emmaunelypsi.org, please select Pantry.

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NHL

Red Wings face questions ahead of training camp

One of the biggest decisions to be determined as the Detroit Red Wings open NHL training camp, will be who to pair with Dylan Larkin and Lucas Raymond on the top offensive line. *Paul Sancya, Associated Press*

Will any rookies make Detroit's season-opening roster?

Ansar Khan *akhan1@mlive.com*

TRAVERSE CITY — The winds of change did not blow through Detroit this NHL offseason. The Red Wings return with mostly the same roster that finished 2024-25 — the franchise's ninth consecutive year missing the Stanley Cup playoffs.

The Red Wings start training camp in Traverse City today with only a handful of new faces. Goaltender John Gibson was their most significant acquisition. They also added depth players in forwards James van Riemsdyk and Mason Appleton and defensemen Travis Hamonic and Jacob Bernard-Docker.

The most notable difference from one year ago is behind the bench, where coach Todd McLellan heads into his first camp with the Red Wings after taking over for Derek Lalonde on Dec. 26.

After three days of practices and scrimmages in Traverse City, the Red Wings will play a Red and White Game Sunday at Van Andel Arena in Grand Rapids.

They open an eight-game preseason schedule Tuesday at home against Boston.

Here are key questions that will be answered in camp and the preseason, before the season-opener Oct. 9 against Montreal at Little Caesars Arena:

WHICH ROOKIES ARE BEST POSITIONED TO EARN A JOB?

It's entirely possible, if not probable, that no rookie makes the season-opening roster.

Gritty winger Carter Mazur, who suffered a season-ending elbow injury in his NHL debut, has the best chance. But, like all waiver-exempt players, he's not sticking around as the 13th forward, he'll need to be part of the every-night lineup to earn a job.

Other forwards eyeing a spot, but likely needing more seasoning with the Grand Rapids Griffins, include Amadeus Lombardi and first-round picks Nate Danielson and Michael Brandsegg-Nygard.

Defenseman Axel Sandin Pellikka is almost certain to start in Grand Rapids since there are eight NHL-experienced D-men on the roster, and it typically takes a defenseman longer than a forward to be ready for the highest level.

HOW MANY ROSTER SPOTS ARE UP FOR GRABS?

Perhaps none. Detroit hast 12 NHL forwards, eight defensemen and two goaltenders and might start with a 22-man roster, one under the limit. If they carry an extra forward, it'll be an AHL veteran whose development isn't affected by sitting. They might waive a defenseman if they feel eight is too many.

WHO IS GOING TO FILL OUT THE TOP SIX ON THE FORWARD LINES?

Pencil in five players for their top six — Dylan Larkin, Lucas Raymond, Alex DeBrincat, Patrick Kane and Marco Kasper.

Who will join them? Chances are, Kasper will center the second line with DeBrincat and Kane. Possibilities to play right wing with Larkin and Raymond include young Jonatan Berggren and veteran van Riemsdyk. Berggren has untapped potential, but defensive issues have hindered him, and this season could be his last opportunity in Detroit. Van Riemsdyk would provide a net-front presence for Larkin and Raymond.

WHO WILL BE SEIDER'S PARTNER ON THE TOP DEFENSE PAIRING?

It'll probably be Ben Chiarot, who has been Seider's primary partner the past three seasons, with Simon Edvinsson and Albert Johansson forming the second pair.

But, depending on situations, opponents and other factors, they'll pair Seider and Edvinsson at times, like last season.

WHO WILL BE ON THE THIRD DEFENSE PAIRING?

Perhaps the only battle for lineup spots, at least at the start, will be on the third D pairing. Erik Gustafsson, if no other reason than his ability to man the point on the second power-play unit, figures to be on the left side. Hamonic, with his experience and physical presence, might be the favorite to be on the right side, ahead of Holl and Bernard-Docker.

Coach Todd McLellan will run his first training camp with Detroit after being hired in December. *AP files*

DETROIT RED WINGS PRESEASON SCHEDULE

- **Sunday:** Red-White Scrimmage at Grand Rapids, 3 p.m.
- **Tuesday:** at Chicago, 7 p.m.
- **Thursday, Sept. 25:** vs. Buffalo, 7 p.m.
- **Friday, Sept. 26:** at Pittsburgh, 7 p.m.
- **Saturday, Sept. 27:** at Buffalo, 3 p.m.
- **Monday, Sept. 29:** vs. Pittsburgh, 7 p.m.
- **Tuesday, Sept. 30:** at Chicago, 8 p.m.
- **Thursday, Oct. 2:** at Toronto, 7 p.m.
- **Saturday, Oct. 4:** vs. Toronto, 7 p.m.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Homecoming proposal lingers for MSU's Chiles in return to L.A.

Michigan State travels to No. 25 USC late Saturday.

Matt Wenzel *mwenzel2@mlive.com*

EAST LANSING — Aidan Chiles learned a valuable lesson as a senior at Downey High School in suburban Los Angeles.

The quarterback entered a prep game knowing a homecoming proposal would follow. He got a yes, but only after a regrettable performance.

"It really just clicked at that moment," Chiles recalled this week. "We watched the film with my coach (Jack Williams), he was telling me you don't look like you're focused, you look like you're ready to ask somebody, instead of ready to play a game. ... After that, it was just like, you know what, in football, I've got to lock in. I've got to do better."

Chiles is now the junior starting quarterback at Michigan State and facing a different homecoming on a larger stage. The Spartans open Big Ten play at No. 25 USC on Saturday and he will have plenty of family and friends at Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum. Chiles' mom is managing ticket requests, because the QB still things about that unfocused game in high school.

"It's not something I really need to worry about," he said. "It's just another distraction."

Chiles, a Long Beach native, will be on familiar ground while attempting to build on a strong first three games. In his second year as a starter, he has completed 71.6 percent of his throws for 656 yards, six touchdowns and one interception — a tipped ball near the line of scrimmage in last week's 41-24 win against Youngstown State.

"I did think, watching the tape, Aidan did a solid job of completing passes, eyes up, smart with the ball," MSU coach Jonathan Smith said, "another good game running it."

Turnovers — 11 interceptions and four lost fumbles — plagued Chiles' first season at Michigan State after following Smith from Oregon State. The next step in the former four-star recruit's progression is being more poised in the pocket and not taking unnecessary risks while trusting his instincts as a dynamic runner.

"Just being able to trust my O linemen and trust my reads and what I can do with my arm," Chiles said, "instead of taking off and trying to make things, or force things to happen, that aren't necessarily there. ... I feel like I've grown a lot there in that stage."

The development continues, and Chiles can see the difference from last year.

"I think we've really challenged him, pocket movement-wise, pocket presence," offensive coordinator Brian Lindgren said. "Last year, if he was moved off his spot a little bit, he'd kind of get himself out of position and wasn't in his passing profile to be able to make the throw to the No. 2 or No. 3 receiver, and we've been really challenging him in the offseason in keeping that passing profile, subtle movements to be able to find that.

"I think he had some pretty good reps

SEE MSU FOOTBALL, C5

MSU FOOTBALL UPDATE

Next game: Michigan State (3-0) at No. 25 Southern Cal (3-0), 11 p.m. Saturday **TV:** Fox

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BASEBALL

West Michigan Whitecaps end historic season with Midwest League title

It's the seventh championship for Detroit Tigers affiliate.

Patrick Nothaft *pnothaft@mlive.com*

CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA — The hottest team in pro baseball has playoff hardware to commemorate its historic season.

The West Michigan Whitecaps defeated the Cedar Rapids Kernels 3-1 on Tuesday to secure a sweep in the Midwest League championship series.

The Whitecaps opened the best-of-3 set with a 5-3 win in Sunday's opener at LMCU Ballpark, then went on the road to wrap up the series and celebrate the franchise's seventh Midwest League title.

The Detroit Tigers' high-A minor league affiliate won championships in 1996, 1998, 2004, 2006, 2007 and 2015.

Starting pitcher Joe Miller — an 11th-round draft pick in 2022 — threw 5⅔ shutout innings, scattering five hits, while striking out six.

Relief pitcher Colin Fields finished the sixth inning with a strikeout, and fellow undrafted right-hander Dariel Fregio threw a scoreless seventh inning.

Cedar Rapids got its lone run in the eighth inning off Moises Rodriguez, but Carlos Lequerica got the final two outs of the inning.

Marco Jimenez threw a perfect ninth with a pair of strikeouts.

The Whitecaps provided early run support with an RBI infield single by right fielder and 2023 13th-round pick Brett Callahan, and West Michigan added a run in the sixth on an RBI double by catcher and 2023 sixth-round pick Bennett Lee.

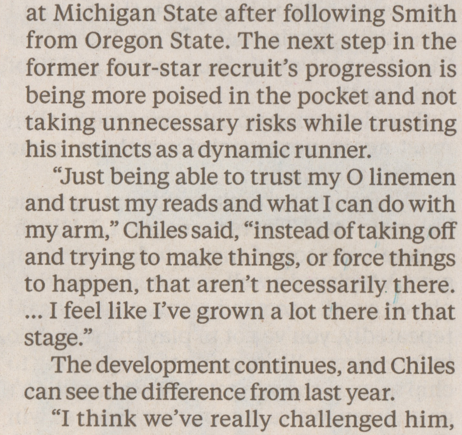
West Michigan made it 3-0 in the top of the eighth, as Callahan hustled home from third base following a passed ball on a strikeout.

Callahan tallied two of the Whitecaps' nine hits, while designated hitter and 2022 second-round pick Peyton Graham also logged two hits.

Lee and first baseman Andrew Jenkins (ninth-round pick in 2022) registered doubles, and second baseman Jack Penney (fifth-round pick in 2024) hit a triple.

Under second-year manager Tony Cappuccilli, West Michigan entered the playoffs with a 92-39 record — the best record in minor league baseball since 1997.

The Whitecaps opened the season loaded with promising prospects, including outfielder Max Clark, infielder Kevin McGonigle and catcher Josue Briceño. The three were promoted to double-A in July.



The West Michigan Whitecaps swept Cedar Rapids in the best-of-3 Midwest League championship series. *MLive.com files*

Detroit Tigers' Kerry Carpenter celebrates his game-tying home run in the ninth inning against the Cleveland Guardians on Tuesday night. But the Tigers lost 7-5 in extra innings. *Paul Sancya, Associated Press*

BASEBALL

Hopes of division-clinching series snuffed out by Cleveland

Kerry Carpenter's ninth-inning home run not enough as Detroit Tigers lose series opener.

Evan Woodbery *ewoodber@mlive.com*

DETROIT — The Detroit Tigers won't be clinching the American League Central in this series.

The red-hot Cleveland Guardians opened this week's division showdown with a 7-5 victory in 10 innings on Tuesday night at Comerica Park.

Heading into Wednesday's game, the Tigers (85-66) led the Guardians (79-71) by 5½ games with 11 games left in the regular season. Detroit could have clinched the division with a series sweep. Instead, Cleveland is keeping things interesting — and potentially worrisome — for the Tigers. The Guardians have won five in a row, and 10 of their last 11.

The clubs wrap up this series today, then meet again next week for a three-game series in Cleveland.

"We feel a ton of excitement coming to the ballpark," said Tigers manager A.J. Hinch. "There was a ton of energy today out of our guys. We played a well-executed game, they played a well-executed game. And I've said repeatedly, you've got to play the schedule in its entirety. We're going to keep trying to chip away at the win total. (Tuesday) didn't go our way. We've got another game to win (Wednesday). But I don't see it as pressure."

The Tigers were down to their last out in the ninth when pinch-hitter Kerry Carpenter blasted a solo homer to center off Guardians closer Cade Smith to tie the game at 3.

The stadium buzz hadn't even subsided before the 10th inning unraveled. Tigers reliever Will Vest gave up four consecutive extra-base hits before recording his first out, and the Guardians scored four to build an imposing lead.

DETROIT TIGERS UPDATE

Next game: Detroit Tigers vs. Cleveland Guardians, 1:40 p.m. today at Comerica Park
TV: FDSN

"There's a lot going on in that inning, but four in a row of good at-bats by them put us in a deep hole," Hinch said. "It was a tough emotional swing for sure, but more than emotions, it was tough results."

What happened to the normally reliable Vest?

"I just think they're good," Hinch said of the Guardians. "Sometimes, the other guy's good. They put up good swings. I love putting (Vest) in the game. I trust him. He's going to be really good for us. But, sometimes, their guys are good, too."

The Tigers answered with a two-run homer by Spencer Torkelson in the bottom of the inning, but fell short of another comeback.

Tigers starter Casey Mize came out firing gas, piling up swings and misses, but his night was marred by a bad hop and a mental error.

The Guardians struck in the second inning. After Mize struck out the first two batters, Nolan Jones hit a bouncer toward Torkelson at first base that took a bad hop and skipped over his head for a double. C.J. Kayfus followed with an RBI single.

The Tigers tied it in the third when Gleyber Torres punished a fastball from Joey Cantillo, sending it 402 feet to left field.

Gabriel Arias answered with a two-out solo homer to right in the fourth to put Cleveland back on top.

In the sixth, Mize was late covering first on a grounder to Torkelson, allowing the second of three Guardians to reach base. Mize struck out Arias before Tyler Holton came on to get two big outs and keep the deficit at two.

Mize finished with eight strikeouts in 5⅓ innings, but left the Tigers with work to do against the Guardians' bullpen.

The Tigers got one back in the bottom half of the sixth. Riley Greene was hit by a pitch, and pinch-hitter Colt Keith singled against reliever Matt Festa. Greene later scored on an infield grounder.

The Tigers had baserunners in the seventh and eighth, but failed to score. Smith looked like he was cruising to his 16th save until Carpenter's blast.

"It was amazing," Carpenter said. "That was such a blessing. That's evidence that anything can happen when the Lord Jesus is in the box with you. I was just happy to come through for the team and the guys. We trust our bullpen to get three outs, and it just didn't happen tonight. That's unfortunate, but we fought till the end."

INJURY CONCERNS FADE FOR SKUBAL

The scariest moment of the Detroit Tigers' 2025 season may end up being much ado about nothing.

Tigers' fans held their breath when Skubal walked off the mound in the fourth inning on Friday in Miami after experiencing discomfort on his left side. Tests didn't reveal any damage, and Skubal said he'll be at full strength for his scheduled start this afternoon.

"It's one of those weird things," Skubal said, referring to the discomfort. "I don't really know how to explain it. But (yesterday's) bullpen went well, the scans came back good. So, it's on to the next one."

Skubal is 13-5 with a 2.26 ERA in 183 innings with 224 strikeouts and 28 walks.

He's in a position to win consecutive Cy Young Awards.

"Obviously, we were thrilled with the news that things were looking positive," Hinch said. "And, then, when you go out there and see him (throw a bullpen), it makes everybody feel better."

NHL

Danielson learns strength matters in bid for NHL job

Detroit Red Wings top pick is bigger and stronger after eye-opening season in AHL.

Ansar Khan *akhan1@mlive.com*

TRAVERSE CITY — Nate Danielson's first experience playing against bigger, stronger and older men in the AHL was enlightening.

It prompted the Detroit Red Wings' top pick in 2023 (ninth overall) to spend more time in the gym over the summer. He gained weight and feels stronger and better prepared for his second pro season.

"You realize you need that little bit extra weight," Danielson (6-foot-1, 197 pounds) said. "I feel great. Especially down low in the corners and just being stronger on my skates. As the year goes on, you tend to lose a little bit of weight. So, it's nice to come into camp a little bit heavier."

Danielson is ready for his third training camp with the Red Wings starting today in Traverse City. He was among the prospects who got a head start last weekend with a pair of games against their counterparts from the Dallas Stars.

Grand Rapids Griffins coach Dan Watson said Danielson was one of the best players on the ice in both games, playing on the top line and specialty teams.

"He did everything we asked him to do, and he was responsible," Watson said. "He produced offense. He was good defensively, good on draws. I appreciate the work ethic and the leadership he provided this group."

Danielson described his first year with the Griffins as a learning season. He produced 12 goals and 27 assists in 71 games and scored one goal in three playoff games.

"Definitely, at times, it was hard," Danielson said. "I felt like the start of the year was a challenge, just kind of figuring out what made me successful and what kind of worked for me. There's just ups and downs throughout the year, times where you'd be playing really well, and it felt like everything was going right and, then, times where it wasn't. I'm just kind of learning how to manage those better."

He takes pride in his complete game.

"Big thing is just being trusted on the ice, trusted to play defense, and just being a smart player, making good reads, making subtle little plays," Danielson said. "And, then, try to be creative and let my skill take over."

Watson said Danielsons defensive mindset and ability to read the play are unusual qualities for such a young player.

"A lot of these guys that come out of junior, they're top scorers, as he was, and maybe they lack a little bit of that defensive structure," Watson said. "But he's had good coaching along the way. He's a smart kid. He makes the right reads and he's there for support. He understands the game extremely well. He always wants to learn about the game. He loves to watch hockey, loves to watch his shifts."

Danielson turns 21 on Sept. 27 and in all likelihood will need more development time in Grand Rapids, where he'll start the season barring an exceptional camp and preseason coupled with injuries to create space on the NHL roster.

"Compared to last year, I have a bit different mentality, kind of going in with whatever happens, happens," Danielson said. "Just go out there and compete and show what I can do. And obviously the goal is to (be in) Detroit. If not, then go play in Grand Rapids and just have (to work) my butt off and try to respond there."

GOLF

High school golfer to compete with pros at Pebble Beach

David Duval, Ernie Els and Vijay Singh are a few of the golfers sharing the course with a West Michigan teenager this week.

East Grand Rapids junior Henry Seufert will tee up alongside some of the sport's legends at the PGA Tour Champions PURE Insurance Championship at Pebble Beach Golf Links in California.

The annual tournament pairs junior golfers with Champions Tour golfers.

"I couldn't be more excited," Seufert said in a release. "This is the opportunity of a lifetime; one I will remember forever."

Junior golfers participating are enrolled in local chapters of the First Tee program — a youth development organization that empowers participants through the game of golf.

Twenty-four junior golfers advance to Sunday's final round at Pebble Beach.

Seufert has been enrolled in the program for nearly a decade and follows in the footsteps of older brothers, Charlie and Jack, who competed in the event.

As a sophomore last spring, the 16-year-old placed 19th at the MHSAA Division 2 boys state final.

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Portage Central's Enders named Coach of the Week

Mick Enders is a proud graduate of Portage Central and proud of his football career with the Mustangs.

Enders has taken the next step as the Portage Central coach, leading the Mustangs to a 3-0 start to the high school football season. The Detroit Lions named Enders their Coach of the Week after the Mustangs' 57-0 win over Stevensville Lakeshore.

"Growing up here, playing here, I had such a positive experience," Enders said. "I wanted to get involved and make sure kids coming up in our community had that same experience."

Central has outscored its three opponents 143-0, giving Enders a head coaching record of 109-49.

Enders is in his 26th season of coaching at Portage Central — the last 16 as the head coach.

NFL

Former Detroit Lions owner celebrates 100th birthday

There were three recipients of a game ball following the Detroit Lions' 52-21 win over the Chicago Bears on Sunday.

Only one had a milestone birthday on the horizon.

Former Lions principal owner Martha Firestone Ford turned 100 on Tuesday. Following the death of her husband, William Clay Ford Sr. — who had ownership of the team since 1963 — Ford served as principal owner for six years before handing the reins to her daughter, Sheila Hamp.

She celebrated her birthday in the Lions' locker room, where coach Dan Campbell presented her with a game ball.

"I'm so proud of you all. And I'm so thankful for this," Ford said. "I can't tell you how thrilled I am with each game, and I see the results. And I think we've got a great leader."

NHL

Former Detroit Red Wings goaltender dies at age 86

Ed Giacomin, a goaltender who played the final three seasons of his Hall-of-Fame career with the Detroit Red Wings, has died. He was 86.

Giacomin starred with the New York Rangers for 10-plus seasons from 1965-75, playing in five All-Star Games and winning the Vezina Trophy in 1970-71.

The Red Wings claimed the native of Sudbury, Ontario, off waivers early in the 1975-76 season. He appeared in 71 games for Detroit, going 23-37-7 with a 3.47 goals-against average, .883 save percentage and five shutouts for one of the worst teams in the league. He retired in 1978 and was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1987.

TRACK & FIELD

Former state champion earns bronze at world championships

A year removed from her first Olympics, Michigan native Grace Stark earned her first medal on the world stage.

Stark won the bronze medal in the women's 100-meter hurdles Monday at the World Athletics Championships in Tokyo with a time of 12.34 seconds.

Stark won track and field state championships for Lakeland High School in White Lake Township.

Ditaji Kambundji, of Switzerland, claimed gold with a national record time of 12.24, while Tobi Amusan, of Nigeria, was second.

Stark placed fifth at last year's Paris Olympics. *— MLive.com*

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL ROUNDUP

Chelsea's SEC-White win streak rolls on with Ichesco brothers taking center stage

Brothers put stamp on victory over Adrian in second half.

Greg Wickliffe *gwickliffe@mlive.com*

CHELSEA — Jax and Gibson Ichesco always know where the other will be.

Not only are they brothers who have grown up together on and off the field, they have developed a special chemistry as teammates for Chelsea's football team, Jax at quarterback and Gibson at receiver.

When Gibson dropped a would-be touchdown pass in the first half of Chelsea's matchup with Adrian, the brothers were already eager to move on and make up for it.

"After that drop, I went over to him and I said, 'Next play,'" Jax said. "I knew he was going to keep making plays. Just got to keep getting on the ball so he can do his thing."

The tandem shook off the mishap as they connected for two touchdown passes in the second half to help the Bulldogs pull away for a 29-12 win.

"I knew I should have caught it," Gibson said. "I'm like, I told (Jax) at halftime to keep throwing me the rock. I'll keep going. Just put the ball in my hands and I'll go to work."

The Ichesco brothers went to work again for the Bulldogs as their two touchdowns solidified the win in the second half.

"I've got a great connection with him," Jax said. "He's thinking what I'm thinking, so I know he'll be down there somewhere. So let him do his thing with the ball."

The victory pushed Chelsea to 3-0 overall and 2-0 in the Southeastern Conference White.

In addition, the Bulldogs have won 13 straight SEC-White games dating back to the 2023 season.

"I think we have a great team chemistry," Jax said. "O-line is great this year. It's filled with size and physicality. I just love it. Teamwork on defense is great. I just think everything is going good so far."

Gibson opened the scoring for the Bulldogs when he ran 67 yards to the end zone to set the tone in the first quarter.

Adrian answered with a kick return score on the next play, but Chelsea was unfazed as it took control from there.

Jax connected with Luke Cavanaugh for a 72-yard touchdown pass to give the Bulldogs a 13-6 lead entering halftime.

The Ichesco brothers put the game away with their connection through the air in the second half.

"They're zero to full speed in two steps," said Adrian coach Joel Przygodski of the Ichesco brothers. "They're well coached and they're a handful."

While the Ichesco brothers did what they have been accustomed to doing on offense, Chelsea's defense also had a strong game as it held Adrian to its lowest point total of the season.

The Bulldogs were also opportunistic on defense, forcing three turnovers. Beckett Boos recorded two interceptions, and Nathan Sobiechowski had another.

"I thought our defense played amazing," Chelsea coach Noel Dean said. "Our defense is growing and getting better, and we've got a lot of young kids out there running around."

It was a key victory for the Bulldogs at home, considering five of their first six games are being played on the road, including a three-game road stretch beginning this week at Tecumseh.

Dean said he is looking forward to the challenge for his team.

"I don't know, maybe going on the road is good for us," Dean said. "I was telling the kids about Mad Max. They don't even know who Mad Max is, so it made me feel a little old.

"But we're road warriors, man. It's what we are. We're going to get on the road and looking forward to the opportunity."

This is Chelsea's first 3-0 start since the team won the Division 4 state title in 2021.

While there's a long way to go before the Bulldogs can focus on that kind of run, Gibson said the team is optimistic about this year's group.

"Our mindset is we want to win every game," he said. "We want to come back with another state championship like we did in 2021.

"Just got to have a good mindset so we can keep going."

Chelsea's Gavin Busch looks for running room Friday against Adrian. The Bulldogs rolled to a 29-12 victory to stay undefeated. *MLive.com photos by Abra Richardson*

Chelsea's Jax Ichesco, left, and his brother Gibson had big games in the Bulldogs' 29-12 win over Adrian. Chelsea has a 3-0 record this season.

Saline 51, Ann Arbor Pioneer 0: Playing on the road against a rival, Saline looked every bit like a juggernaut and a Top 5 team in the state Friday.

The Hornets dominated in the trenches and imposed their will early as they rolled past Pioneer in a Southeastern Conference Red matchup.

Saline, ranked No. 3 in Division 1, ran the ball at will.

The Hornets scored four rushing touchdowns in the first half to carry a 34-0 lead into intermission.

James Rush led the team with 100 rushing yards and two TDs, while Carson Cherry had 70 yards rushing and a TD and Bryce Barbarino added a TD run.

Quarterback Tommy Carr completed 19-of-24 passes for 211 yards and two touchdowns to Cherry and Lucas Fidh.

Fidh finished with six catches for 69 yards and Austin Abbate had six catches for 66 yards.

Saline improved to 3-0 overall and 2-0 in the SEC-Red and will host Division 2's No. 2-ranked Dexter in a massive clash Friday.

Pioneer fell to 1-2 overall and 0-2 in SEC-Red play and will try to bounce back at Lincoln.

Dexter 48, Ann Arbor Huron 16: The Dreadnaughts were firing on all cylinders as they cruised to victory over Ann Arbor Huron.

Dexter's offense was unstoppable as it pulled ahead 41-0 by the end of the first half of the SEC-Red matchup.

Senior quarterback Cooper Arnedt completed 18-of-20 passes for 300 yards and three touchdowns and added a rushing touchdown.

John Jerome added two rushing TDs, while Cola Novara, Holden Niemi and Oliver Hutchinson each hauled in passes for touchdowns.

Brandon Willis and Keenan Waller each had rushing scores for Huron. The River Rats (1-2, 0-1 SEC-Red) are back in action against Skyline.

The Dreadnaughts now turn their sights on a crucial SEC-Red matchup with Division 1's No. 3-ranked Saline this week.

Father Gabriel Richard 25, Detroit University Prep Science & Math 24: The Fighting Irish (3-0) had four rushing touchdowns in the first half as they built a 35-10 lead by intermission.

Matthew Hoban led FGR with three rushing touchdowns, Ian Everts had two TDs and Finn O'Meara rushed for a score.

Quarterback Fisher Thomas also threw a touchdown pass to James Milanovich.

FGR, ranked No. 9 in Division 5, will look to extend its win streak when it travels to Riverview Gabriel Richard.

Ypsilanti Lincoln 21, Tecumseh 17: A balanced offensive attack was enough for the Railsplitters to earn their third win of the season by defeating Tecumseh.

Quarterback Sam Bentley connected with Carson Greene for a 40-yard touchdown to give Lincoln its first lead of the game.

The Railsplitters grew their lead thanks to two touchdown runs from Tyrese French to improve to 3-0 overall and 2-0 in the SEC-White.

Lincoln is off to its best start since 2012 and will look to remain undefeated when it takes on Pioneer this week.

Monroe Jefferson 52, Milan 21: Jefferson jumped out to a 15-0 lead before Milan could find its footing.

The Big Reds scored on a touchdown pass from Cam Dessellier to Jacob Offerman to cut the deficit to 15-7, but Jefferson pulled away with 31 unanswered points to establish control in the second quarter.

Shawn Ballard also had 63 rushing yards and two scores for the Big Reds.

"It was a very disappointing game," Milan coach Jesse Hoskins said. "We will work hard to improve."

Milan (1-2, 0-2 Huron League) will look to rebound against New Boston Huron.

Monroe 20, Ann Arbor Skyline 13: Quarterback Isaac Skadsem passed for 100 yards and a touchdown to Joseph Green in a losing effort. Skadsem also rushed for a touchdown.

Skyline (1-2, 0-2 SEC-Red) will look to rebound at Huron.

Dearborn Divine Child 43, Ypsilanti 0: Cam Taylor passed for 24 yards and Kyre Reid rushed for 32 yards for Ypsilanti. Defensive lineman Jaquan McMiller led the team with nine tackles and a sack.

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

Readers can cast a vote for the Ann Arbor-area football Player of the Week

Greg Wickliffe *gwickliffe@mlive.com*

ANN ARBOR — The consistency has been off the charts for some of the top Ann Arbor-area football players to start the season.

Week 3 was no different as several key performers put forth impressive games to add to their already strong campaigns in 2025.

Once again, MLive-The Ann Arbor News is rewarding the top performers with a chance to be named the football Player of the Week as 13 players have been nominated.

Readers will have until 9 a.m. Friday to cast their votes at mlive.com/sports/ann-arbor. The winner will be announced online shortly after the poll closes.

Readers should note this is a fan poll. It has no bearing on postseason awards, and no prizes are awarded to the winner.

Here are the nominees for Week 3:

Cooper Arnedt, Dexter senior: Arnedt completed 18-of-20 passes for 300 yards and three touchdowns along with a rushing score in a 48-16 win over Huron.

Whitmore Lake's Cayden Bradburn ran for five touchdowns Friday against Auburn Hills Oakland Christian. *MLive.com files*

Shawn Ballard, Milan senior: Ballard rushed for 63 yards and two touchdowns in a 52-21 loss against Monroe Jefferson.

Beckett Boos, Chelsea senior: Boos recorded two interceptions for Chelsea's defense in its 29-12 win over Adrian.

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

WEEK 4 SCHEDULE

- Fr. Gabriel Richard at Riverview Richard
- Ann Arbor Skyline at Ann Arbor Huron
- Ann Arbor Pioneer at Ypsilanti Lincoln
- Chelsea at Tecumseh
- Dexter at Saline
- New Boston Huron at Milan
- Whitmore Lake at Roch. Hills Lutheran NW
- Yspilanti at Jackson

Cayden Bradburn, Whitmore Lake senior: Bradburn propelled the Trojans to their first victory of the season (49-32) as he rushed for 174 yards and five touchdowns against Auburn Hills Oakland Christian.

Carson Cherry, Saline junior: Cherry rushed for a touchdown and caught a TD pass to help the Hornets defeat Pioneer 51-0.

Tyrese French, Ypsilanti Lincoln senior: French had rushing touchdowns of 2 yards and 70 yards in the Railsplitters' 21-17 win over Tecumseh.

Matt Hoban, Father Gabriel Richard senior: Hoban ran for 73 yards and three TDs to help the Fighting Irish beat Detroit University Prep Science and Math 59-24.

Gibson Ichesco, Chelsea junior: Ichesco had two scoring grabs and ran for a 67-yard TD in Chelsea's 29-12 win vs. Adrian.

Jaquan McMiller, Ypsilanti senior: McMiller had a team-high nine tackles and a sack in a 43-0 loss against Divine Child.

Cole Novara, Dexter senior: Novara hauled in seven passes for 119 yards and a touchdown in a 48-16 win against Huron.

James Rush, Saline senior: Rush led the way as he found the end zone twice in the Hornets' 51-0 victory over Pioneer.

Isaac Skadsem, Skyline junior: Skadsem passed for 100 yards and a TD and ran for a score in a 20-13 loss against Monroe.

Brandon Willis, Huron senior: Willis recorded 166 total yards of offense and two touchdowns in a 48-16 loss against Dexter.

SPORTS

Cal Raleigh joins elite company

MARINERS
21
ALEY
20

Seattle Mariners catcher Cal Raleigh is congratulated Tuesday night by teammates in the dugout after hitting a home run during the third inning against the Kansas City Royals. *Jamie Squire, Getty Images, TNS*

Seattle's resilient catcher breaks historic records held by Mantle and Griffey, keeping Mariners atop AL West with 12 games remaining.

Dave Skretta *Associated Press*

KANSAS CITY, MO. — Cal Raleigh broke a record held by Mickey Mantle on Tuesday night while matching another held by Ken Griffey Jr.

That's some company for a single night.

The Mariners catcher hit his 55th homer of the season in the second inning against the Kansas City Royals, sending him past Mantle's mark for a switch-hitter that had stood since 1961. Then, Raleigh hit his 56th the very next inning, matching the club record that Griffey first established in 1997 and matched himself the following year.

"It just doesn't even seem real," said Seattle designated hitter Dominic Canzone, who on almost any other night would have been the star. He went 5 for 5 with three homers in the 12-5 win — the 10th straight for the Mariners.

"I mean, he just does it every single day," Canzone continued, "and he's doing it behind the plate as well. So just to have that type of a performance out of your catcher, it's something that you really don't see. It's like, a once-in-a-lifetime type of player."

Making the two-homer night even more impressive? Raleigh took a pitch from Mariners starter Logan Gilbert that bounced off the plate and off his neck, where it had missed under his catcher's mask. A red welt was visible after the game.

Good thing for Seattle that he never thought about taking the rest of the night off.

"Yeah, I mean, it didn't feel good," said Raleigh, who also had a double and finished 3 for 5 at the plate. "You know, kind of let my head up a little bit. Have to tuck it in a little better. It was all good. Just stung a bit.

"One of those things that happen to catchers every once in a while."

The homer barrage? That doesn't happen among catchers very often. Raleigh earlier this season passed the home run mark for a backstop that had been held by Kansas City counterpart Salvador Perez, who hit 48 homers during the 2021 season.

Now, the next big name on the list is Yankees slugger Aaron Judge, who had the last of the nine 60-homer seasons in the majors when he hit 62 in 2022. That also stands as the American League record.

"It's really cool. I'm humbled by it. A crazy kind of thing I never thought would happen," Raleigh said, standing inside a tunnel beneath Kauffman Stadium after his 20th career multi-homer game and his 10th this season. "Just taking it day-by-day, pitch-by-pitch. Really enjoying every day with these guys, and just trying to finish the season strong."

The Mariners are certainly doing that. Their win over Kansas City to open their final trip of the regular season maintained a half-game AL West lead over Houston, which beat Texas on Tuesday night.

Seattle's winning streak is its longest since July 2-17, 2022, when the club won 14 in a row.

And ultimately, that's what matters the most to Raleigh, who seems to relish his home runs only when the Mariners win.

His first Tuesday night came off Royals starter Michael Wacha in the third inning while batting left-handed. His second came off Daniel Lynch IV while batting right-handed. It was the fifth time in his career he has homered from both sides of the plate.

Raleigh is three homers ahead of the Phillies' Kyle Schwarber for the big league lead with 12 games to go.

"You know, I think he's approached this from Day 1 with a ton of humility," Mariners manager Dan Wilson said. "That's the kind of person he is. You know, his desire is to win, and that's what he wants to do here in Seattle is win. And that's where his drive comes from. And that's the way he has approached this whole thing. And I think, you know, Cal just continues to check off these milestones, and he does it with such a humble heart. He has handled it all so incredibly well."

MLB

L.A. Dodgers' bullpen crisis deepens as playoffs loom

Despite Ohtani's hitless start and a commanding lead, L.A.'s relievers continued their downward spiral, blowing another crucial game against the Phillies.

Beth Harris *Associated Press*

LOS ANGELES — The silence in the Los Angeles Dodgers clubhouse was deafening. The few players left quietly dressed and departed after another tough loss to the Philadelphia Phillies.

Once again, the bullpen blew it.

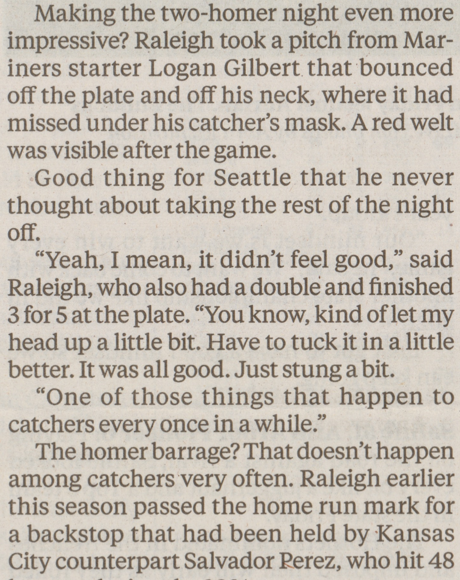
After Shohei Ohtani pitched five hitless innings, Philadelphia's Rafael Marchon hit a tiebreaking, three-run homer off Blake Treinen with two outs in the ninth inning for a 9-6 win on Tuesday night.

The Phillies clinched the NL East title with a 6-5 win in 10 innings on Monday night.

Twelve of the Dodgers' last 19 losses have been charged to relievers and they are 6-14 in their past 20 games decided by one run.

"They're lacking confidence," manager Dave Roberts said. "They're not making good pitches when they need to, a little careful at times."

Roberts maintains he hasn't lost confidence in the group that includes veterans Treinen, Tanner Scott, Kirby Yates and Michael Kopech, along with youngsters Jack Dreyer and Emmet Sheehan.



Philadelphia Phillies' Brandon Marsh, left, connects on a three-run home run off Los Angeles Dodgers relief pitcher Justin Wrobleski on Tuesday night in Los Angeles. *Mark J. Terrill, Associated Press*

"I know it's frustrating to the fans," Treinen said. "I can promise you from the bottom of our hearts we're trying our darndest every single night. There's nothing we haven't done, there's no stone we haven't unturned. It's not an effort thing, it's not a preparation thing. It is literally just sometimes things aren't working."

Dreyer and Justin Wrobleski had been pitching well lately, until the Phillies came to town. Dreyer gave up two runs and two hits in one inning of Monday's loss.

The crowd of 44,063 groaned when Wrobleski came onto the field, knowing Ohtani was done. They booed heavily as the 25-year-old left-hander got shelled for five straight hits, including a three-run homer, in blowing a 4-0 lead.

"My job is to go out there and put up zeroes and I did not do that," Wrobleski said. "Life is about how you handle adversity and I've dealt with a lot of that, so I know what I need to do. I know that being better is the bottom line and I know I can do it."

Time is running out.

The Dodgers lead second-place San Diego in the NL West by two games after the Padres also lost, 8-3 at the New York Mets. The Dodgers dropped seven games behind the Phillies for the No. 2 seed in the National League with 11 games remaining in the regular season.

As dreadful as the bullpen has been, Dodgers starters have been terrific lately. In eight of the last 11 games, they've allowed one or fewer hits in the first five innings.

But the relief corps has been their undoing.

TORONTO BLUE JAYS

Bichette hopes to return during playoffs

Toronto Blue Jays shortstop Bo Bichette will miss the remainder of the regular season with a sprained left knee, but the AL East leaders hope to get him back during the playoffs.

Bichette has been sidelined since Sept. 7. He saw Dr. Dan Cooper in Dallas on Monday for a second opinion, which matched the first: a sprained knee, no structural damage, and no surgery required.

"The only time frame you can put on it right now is he's not going to be back for the regular season," Blue Jays manager John Schneider said before Tuesday night's game against Tampa Bay. "But I think he's working hard to be back as soon as he can after."

Toronto began the day with the best record in the American League and a five-game lead in the AL East over the New York Yankees with 12 to play. If the Blue Jays win the division and finish with one of the top two AL seeds, they'd open the postseason Oct. 4 at home.

If they wind up in a best-of-three Wild Card Series, that would start Sept. 30.

Schneider indicated Monday it's possible Bichette could initially return at designated hitter before he's ready to play defense.

Bichette was having a strong season before the injury, batting .311 with 18 home runs, 94 RBIs and an .840 OPS in 139 games. He leads the majors in hits (181) and doubles (44).

NEW YORK YANKEES

Volpe has 2 hits, RBI in return to starting lineup

Anthony Volpe had two hits and an RBI in his return to the New York Yankees' starting lineup after cortisone shot in his left shoulder, helping them to a 10-9 win over the Minnesota Twins on Tuesday.

Volpe entered in a 2-for21 slide. He is hitting .208 with 19 homers and 71 RBIs in 143 games this season, playing through a small tear in his labrum for more than four months.

He had a cortisone shot last week, his second this season, and returned to action as a defensive replacement in the eighth inning of New York's 7-0 loss Monday.

"I feel like he's in a good place physically," New York manager Aaron Boone said before the game. "With that being said, that's been the case most of the year. So, he's just got to focus on what he does up at the plate and put himself in position to make good swing decisions, and hopefully click for him right away."

Volpe aggravated the injury on Sept. 7 when he made a diving stop in a game against AL East-leading Toronto. He originally injured the shoulder in May and had a cortisone shot during the All-Star break.

NEW YORK METS

Alvarez plunked again but appears to have dodged injury

The New York Mets are hopeful Francisco Alvarez, already playing with a broken pinkie on his left hand and a torn UCL in his right thumb, dodged another injury Tuesday night when the catcher was hit by a pitch on his upper left arm.

Alvarez appeared to be in serious pain after getting drilled by a 100 mph fastball from San Diego Padres rookie right-hander Bradgley Rodríguez in the eighth inning of the Mets' 8-3 victory. The 23-year-old bent down behind home plate and clutched his left arm as he slowly walked up the first base line with manager Carlos Mendoza and an athletic trainer.

Alvarez was lifted for pinch-runner Hayden Senger but appeared on the Mets' bench minutes later, smiling and sporting a large wrap around his left arm. He later joined the handshake line following New York's victory.

Mendoza said Alvarez was sore but wasn't expected to undergo imaging.

PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES

Infielder Sosa hits injured list with groin strain

The Philadelphia Phillies placed infielder Edmundo Sosa on the injured list on Tuesday with a right groin strain.

He has played second base, third base, shortstop, left field and center field over 62 starts this season. He set a single-season career high with 33 RBIs and five of his seven home runs have come against left-handed pitching. Sosa's IL stint is retroactive to Saturday.

To fill Sosa's roster spot, the NL East champion Phillies called up infielder Rafael Lantigua from Triple-A Lehigh Valley while outfielder Brewer Hicklen was designated for assignment.

Lantigua is making his major league debut. The 27-year-old is hitting .232 with 15 doubles, seven home runs, 56 RBIs, 77 walks and 82 runs scored in 124 games in the International League. *Associated Press*

SPORTS

Michigan quarterback Bryce Underwood (19) celebrates with teammates after scoring his first career rushing touchdown in Saturday's win over Central Michigan University. U-M travels to Nebraska this week. *Jacob Hamilton, MLive.com*

COLLEGE FOOTBALL BIG TEN RANKINGS

U-M, MSU holding steady ahead of Big Ten Conference openers

Week 3 of Big Ten action largely defined by blowouts in nonconference games.

Ryan Zuke *rzuke1@mlive.com*

Big Ten play ramps up this week, which means we might get to see more separation among the 18 teams.

Week 3 was largely defined by blowouts in nonconference play. There weren't many results that warranted much movement in the latest power rankings.

With five Big Ten games this week, including two matchups between some of the top teams in the conference, next week's rankings should feature some shakeups.

For now, here's how the teams stack up:

1. OHIO STATE (3-0)
- **Last week:** Beat Ohio, 37-9
- **Notable:** No. 1 Ohio State had a rocky start against the Bobcats and led by four points early in the third quarter before stepping on the gas. In the end, the Buckeyes racked up 573 yards, fueled by the Julian Sayin-Jeremiah Smith connection. Smith finished with nine catches for 153 yards and a touchdown, while rushing for a 17-yard score.

2. OREGON (3-0)
- **Last week:** Beat Northwestern, 34-14
- **Notable:** The sixth-ranked Ducks took a 31-0 lead into the fourth quarter against the Wildcats and rank second in the conference in scoring. Coach Dan Lanning has a plethora of new starters on both sides of the ball but, so far, there hasn't been any drop-off from last year's Big Ten championship level.

3. PENN STATE (3-0)
- **Last week:** Beat Villanova, 52-6
- **Notable:** The second-ranked Nittany Lions have been dominant on defense, including Saturday by limiting Villanova to 180 yards. It hasn't been as smooth of an operation offensively. QB Drew Allar hasn't played to a Heisman-caliber level, but the team has a bye before a huge showdown against Oregon on Sept. 27.

4. ILLINOIS (3-0)
- **Last week:** Beat Western Michigan, 38-0
- **Notable:** Coach Bret Bielema was furious over his team's first half against the Broncos, but the Illini responded, scoring touchdowns on three consecutive drives in the second half. Even after going three-and-out on their first five possessions, Illinois outgained WMU 358-204. It will need a better start offensively against Indiana this week, in what could be a playoff-deciding game.

5. USC (3-0)
- **Last week:** Beat Purdue, 33-17
- **Notable:** Defeating the Boilermakers isn't a signature win, but the Trojans were in control throughout on the road and did enough to maintain their spot. They lead the Big Ten in scoring and total offense.

6. NEBRASKA (3-0)
- **Last week:** Beat Houston Christian, 59-7
- **Notable:** The Cornhuskers outscored Houston Christian and Akron 127-7 the past two weeks as coach Matt Rhule has the program looking like a potential Big Ten contender. Nebraska has lost its last four against Michigan dating to 2018. A win Saturday could go a long way toward its playoff hopes with a favorable conference slate in 2025.

Michigan State tight end Michael Masunas (81) celebrates a touchdown in the Spartans win over Boston College. *AP files*

BIG TEN CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

WEEK 4

Friday's game
- Iowa at Rutgers, 8 p.m.

Saturday's game
- Maryland at Wisconsin, Noon
- Oregon St. at Oregon, 3 p.m.
- Michigan at Nebraska, 3:30 p.m.
- Purdue at Notre Dame, 3:30 p.m.
- Illinois at Indiana, 7:30 p.m.
- Washington at Washington St., 7:30 p.m.
- Michigan St. at Southern Cal, 11 p.m.

7. MICHIGAN (2-1)
- **Last week:** Beat Central Michigan 63-3
- **Notable:** The 21st-ranked Wolverines finally unleashed Bryce Underwood in the run game, and their offense erupted for 616 yards. It was a get-right game for Michigan after a lackluster performance on the road against Oklahoma. Can it build off it as it goes back on the road in another tough environment?

8. INDIANA (3-0)
- **Last week:** Beat Indiana State, 73-0
- **Notable:** The Hoosiers could have won 100-0 last Saturday, and it likely wouldn't have moved them up in the power rankings. They've cruised through an easy nonconference schedule, and now have a chance to make an early statement in Big Ten play. Cal transfer QB Fernando Mendoza has put up Heisman-caliber numbers so far, but can he do it against a tougher Illinois team?

9. WASHINGTON (2-0)
- **Last week:** Bye week
- **Notable:** The Huskies face rival Washington State before opening conference play against No. 1 Ohio State the following week in Seattle.

10. MICHIGAN STATE (3-0)
- **Last week:** Beat Youngstown State, 41-27
- **Notable:** The Spartans are 3-0, but their defense has shown cracks the past two weeks. Injuries to key players are mounting, and they open conference play on the opposite side of the country. MSU is an underdog against USC — but, even if it gets tripped up by the Trojans, how many people will have stayed up to watch it?

11. IOWA (2-1)
- **Last week:** Beat UMass, 47-7
- **Notable:** The Hawkeyes' lowly offense set off some fireworks Saturday for coach Kirk Ferentz's 206th career victory — moving him ahead of Woody Hayes for most in Big Ten history. They totaled 435 yards, were 10 of 16 on third down and had zero turnovers against UMass.

12. MINNESOTA (2-1)
- **Last week:** Lost to Cal, 27-14
- **Notable:** The Gophers and Hawkeyes flip spots this week. The Gophers felt the absence of star running back Darius Taylor in last week's loss, averaging 3.5 yards per carry. Nevertheless, they were only down three late in the fourth quarter.

13. MARYLAND (3-0)
- **Last week:** Beat Towson, 44-17
- **Notable:** Michigan's Bryce Underwood isn't the only high-profile freshman quarterback in the conference. Malik Washington continued his hot start to his career with 261 passing yards, one touchdown and an interception, while also rushing for 29 yards and a score.

14. RUTGERS (3-0)
- **Last week:** Beat Norfolk State, 60-10
- **Notable:** The Scarlet Knights have yet to play a power conference opponent, but averaging 46.3 points under new coordinator Kirk Ciarrocca is notable. We'll see if they can continue their success against a stingy Iowa defense.

15. WISCONSIN (2-1)
- **Last week:** Lost to No. 19 Alabama, 38-14
- **Notable:** Ouch. The Badgers fell into a 28-0 hole against the Tide and were outgained 454-209 while losing the turnover battle 2-0. Wisconsin could get starting QB Billy Edwards Jr. back this week, which could give the offense a boost, but the defense needs to regroup after getting thrashed last weekend.

16. PURDUE (2-1)
- **Last week:** Lost to USC, 33-17
- **Notable:** The Boilermakers hung around against the Trojans at home, but couldn't overcome three Ryan Browne interceptions. Purdue won't compete for a conference title this year, but it looks like it will be more competitive under first-year coach Barry Odom.

17. NORTHWESTERN (1-2)
- **Last week:** Lost to Oregon, 34-14
- **Notable:** The Wildcat offense lacks firepower. They were losing 31-0 entering the fourth quarter against the Ducks before scoring a pair of touchdowns.

18. UCLA (0-3)
- **Last week:** Lost to New Mexico, 35-10
- **Notable:** The Bruins moved on from coach DeShaun Foster after back-to-back losses to Mountain West schools. They travel to Northwestern after their bye, which might be their best shot at getting a win this season.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL
WOLVERINES

U-M survives 'weird' practice week without its head coach

Sherrone Moore suspended ahead of game vs. Nebraska.

Aaron McMann *amcmann@mlive.com*

ANN ARBOR — It was one thing to play a game against Central Michigan without Sherrone Moore on the sideline. Michigan is now going through an entire week without its head coach.

Tuesday marked the first full practice without Moore, who is serving out the remainder of his two-game suspension for violating NCAA rules.

While the Wolverines' coach was around last week before his team's 63-3 rout of CMU, he is barred from the facility ahead of Saturday's Big Ten opener at Nebraska.

"It feels a little weird, but we all have him in our heart," sophomore running back Jordan Marshall said. "Not only are we playing for him, but we're playing for this whole university."

Before leaving, Moore encouraged his players to play for themselves and the school, not him. Interim coach Biff Poggi has since pulled some of that back, issuing an emotional tribute to Moore after Saturday's non-conference finale.

The goal this week, Poggi said, was to emulate his boss as much as he can — in the formatting of practice, the messaging, and preparation for playing a game.

"It's always different without your head coach being there, but the guys have really come together," senior linebacker Jimmy Rolder said. "We're dedicating this game to him, so we've been playing extra hard. We know, without him being there, we're going to have rely on each other out there."

Michigan (2-1) didn't fare particularly well in its first road trip this year, losing 24-13 at Oklahoma — a frustrating game in which its offense struggled to find a rhythm. A more-mobile Bryce Underwood changed that against CMU, with the freshman quarterback rushing for 114 yards and two touchdowns and leading an offensive explosion of 616 yards.

The hope is that will carry over to Saturday against the 3-0 Cornhuskers.

"It's something you want to live up to," starting offensive lineman Evan Link said. "When you have that kind of (expectation), guys want to meet that and rise to the expectation to make sure he sees it on the tape, he sees it watching on the tape, he knows what we're doing exactly what he likes."

Players have noticed a difference in tone at practice. Behind closed doors, Moore can be loud and fiery. Poggi?

"He got to end practice today, and he was just short and sweet," Marshall said. "He was just like, 'Uhhh,' asking our coordinators, 'is everyone good? Everything was good today?' He was just straight to the point. It's just funny how he operates. He's just himself. That's all we ask, is that he just be himself."

MSU FOOTBALL

Homecoming for MSU QB

Continues from C1

of that the last couple weeks to where he's been able to keep us on the field. ...He's able to come off the field and tell you what he saw and, at times last year, he wasn't always able to do that."

Michigan State heads to Los Angeles as a double-digit underdog with the Trojans first in the nation in total offense (604.0) and second in scoring (55.0). Chiles said nothing changes for his squad, but there's obviously pressure to keep pace.

"I think playing complimentary football is going to be huge, it is every game for us and how we operate," Lindgren said. "Us being able stay on the field and move the chains, I think that's really big this week is being able to be efficient on first down. If we get ourselves into second-and-long situations against these guys, their front seven is extremely talented, active. They've created a lot of negative plays, a lot of sacks, they get after your quarterback."

Michigan State is making the trip with an injury-plagued team. Star receiver Nick Marsh and leading rusher Makhi Frazier are questionable due to leg injuries sustained last week.

SPORTS

The Detroit Lions signed Malik Cunningham, a converted receiver and former quarterback, to its practice squad. *Associated Press files*

NFL

Lions sign WR, lineman, place tight end on IR

Lions travel to Baltimore Monday night .

Benjamin Raven *braven@mlive.com*

ALLEN PARK — The Detroit Lions made a handful of roster moves, including adding someone who spent time with the Baltimore Ravens, the team's next opponent.

Detroit added receiver/quarterback Malik Cunningham and tight end Ross Dwelley to its practice squad. They released linebacker Monty Rice from the practice squad and placed tight end Shane Zylstra on injured reserve.

The Lions also signed interior offensive lineman Trystan Colon from their practice squad, adding veteran depth to the trenches.

Cunningham's addition is interesting because he spent time with the Ravens when he transitioned from quarterback to receiver. He likely will serve in the Lamar Jackson role for practice this week ahead of Detroit's trip to Baltimore for Monday Night Football.

Cunningham was a quarterback during his college days at Louisville, and during his first stint in the NFL with the New England Patriots. The 26-year-old was a four-year starting quarterback at Louisville, where he posted 70 passing touchdowns and 29 interceptions. He added 3,179 yards and 50 scores on the ground, and should be able to give the Lions some dual-threat looks in practice while preparing for Jackson and the Ravens.

The Lions hosted Cunningham for a tryout less than two weeks ago. They since added C.J. Beathard to the practice squad to serve as the emergency third quarterback.

Last week, the Lions had backup quarterback Kyle Allen operating as Caleb Williams in practice.

"Well, I'm not saying that," Lions coach Dan Campbell said when asked if Allen brought those needed dual-threat looks last week. "But I'm saying it's as close of a look as we can get where we're at right now."

Zylstra suffered an ankle injury during the first half of Sunday's 52-21 win over the Chicago Bears. He will be required to miss at least four games. Dwelley, 30, spent last season with the Atlanta Falcons after rolling with the San Francisco 49ers for the first six seasons of his career.

Colon's addition to the main roster makes sense. He signed with the Lions shortly after center Frank Ragnow retired and had 11 starts over the past two seasons. He suffered an elbow injury in training camp, which delayed his chances of making the 53-man roster.

The 27-year-old boosts depth on the interior offensive line with experience at center and guard. Detroit used veteran guard Kayode Awosika as its extra blocker last week, with tackle Giovanni Manu and center Kingsley Eguakun on the bench.

Another aspect to take from the latest moves is that the Lions did not do anything with Marcus Davenport. The edge defender suffered ankle and shoulder injuries in last week's victory. Campbell said the Lions were waiting on another medical opinion when addressing reporters on Monday.

"I'm hoping it won't be too bad but, until we get a couple of these second opinions back, I won't know for sure," Campbell said of Davenport.

MOTORSPORTS

AUTO RACING WEEKEND AT A GLANCE

NASCAR CUP SERIES MOBIL 1 301

Site: New Hampshire Motor Speedway, Louden, N.H.
Schedule: Saturday, practice, 3 p.m., qualifying, 4:10 p.m.; Sunday, race, 2 p.m. (USA).
Last year: 2024's Round of 12 opener took place in Kansas City and saw a surprising win by Ross Chastain who held off a late surge from William Byron, earning him his first victory of the season.
Last race: Christopher Bell secured the win in Bristol and capped off a first-round sweep by Joe Gibbs Racing after taking the lead with four laps to go.
Next race: Sept. 28, Kansas City, Kansas.

FORMULA ONE AZERBAIJAN GRAND PRIX

Site: Baku City Circuit, Baku, Azerbaijan.
Schedule: Friday, practice, 4:30 a.m., practice, 8 a.m.; Saturday, practice, 4:30 a.m., qualifying, 8 a.m.; Sunday, race, 8 a.m. (ESPN).
Last year: Oscar Piastri capitalized on a late crash by Sergio Perez and Carlos Sainz, edging out Charles Leclerc to take the win in a race that ended under the Virtual Safety Car.
Last race: Max Verstappen dominated the Italian Grand Prix, beating a second-place Lando Norris by 19 seconds after the two McLaren drivers were caught up in a messy team orders dispute over the final 10 laps.
Next race: Oct. 5, Marina Bay, Singapore.

NHRA 4-WIDE CAROLINA NATIONALS

Site: zMax Dragway, Concord, North Carolina.
Next race: Sept. 28, Madison, Illinois.
— *Associated Press*

PRO FOOTBALL

NFL standings

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Buffalo	2	0	0	1.000	71	50
N. England	1	1	0	.500	46	47
Miami	0	2	0	.000	35	66
N.Y. Jets	0	2	0	.000	42	64
South	**W**	**L**	**T**	**Pct**	**PF**	**PA**
Indianapolis	2	0	0	1.000	62	36
Jacksonville	1	1	0	.500	53	41
Houston	0	1	0	.000	9	14
Tennessee	0	2	0	.000	31	53
North	**W**	**L**	**T**	**Pct**	**PF**	**PA**
Cincinnati	2	0	0	1.000	48	43
Baltimore	1	1	0	.500	81	58
Pittsburgh	1	1	0	.500	51	63
Cleveland	0	2	0	.000	33	58
West	**W**	**L**	**T**	**Pct**	**PF**	**PA**
LA Chargers	1	0	0	1.000	27	21
Las Vegas	1	0	0	1.000	20	13
Denver	1	1	0	.500	48	41
Kansas City	0	2	0	.000	38	47

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Philadelphia	2	0	0	1.000	44	37
Dallas	1	1	0	.500	60	61
Washington	1	1	0	.500	39	33
N.Y. Giants	0	2	0	.000	43	61
South	**W**	**L**	**T**	**Pct**	**PF**	**PA**
Tampa Bay	1	0	0	1.000	23	20
Atlanta	1	1	0	.500	42	29
Carolina	0	2	0	.000	32	53
N. Orleans	0	2	0	.000	34	46
North	**W**	**L**	**T**	**Pct**	**PF**	**PA**
Green Bay	2	0	0	1.000	54	31
Detroit	1	1	0	.500	65	48
Minnesota	1	1	0	.500	33	46
Chicago	0	2	0	.000	45	79
West	**W**	**L**	**T**	**Pct**	**PF**	**PA**
Arizona	2	0	0	1.000	47	35
L.A. Rams	2	0	0	1.000	47	28
San Fran.	2	0	0	1.000	43	34
Seattle	1	1	0	.500	44	34

WEEK 3

Thursday, Sept. 18
Miami at Buffalo, 8:15 p.m.
Sunday, Sept. 21
Atlanta at Carolina, 1 p.m.
Cincinnati at Minnesota, 1 p.m.
Green Bay at Cleveland, 1 p.m.
Houston at Jacksonville, 1 p.m.
Indianapolis at Tennessee, 1 p.m.
L.A. Rams at Philadelphia, 1 p.m.
Las Vegas at Washington, 1 p.m.
N.Y. Jets at Tampa Bay, 1 p.m.
Pittsburgh at New England, 1 p.m.
Denver at L.A. Chargers, 4:05 p.m.
New Orleans at Seattle, 4:05 p.m.
Arizona at San Francisco, 4:25 p.m.
Dallas at Chicago, 4:25 p.m.
Kansas City at N.Y. Giants, 8:20 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 22
Detroit at Baltimore, 8:15 p.m.

PRO BASEBALL

MLB standings

(Through Tuesday's Games)

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	89	62	.589	—
New York	84	67	.556	5
Boston	82	69	.543	7
Tampa Bay	73	78	.483	16
Baltimore	71	80	.470	18
Central	**W**	**L**	**Pct**	**GB**
Detroit	85	66	.563	—
Cleveland	79	71	.527	5½
Kansas City	75	76	.497	10
Minnesota	66	85	.437	19
Chicago	57	95	.375	28½
West	**W**	**L**	**Pct**	**GB**
Seattle	83	68	.550	—
Houston	83	69	.546	½
Texas	79	73	.520	4½
Athletics	71	80	.470	12
Los Angeles	69	82	.457	14

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Philadelphia	91	61	.599	—
New York	78	73	.517	12½
Miami	71	80	.470	19½
Atlanta	69	83	.454	22
Washington	62	90	.408	29
Central	**W**	**L**	**Pct**	**GB**
z-Milwaukee	92	59	.609	—
Chicago	87	64	.576	5
Cincinnati	75	76	.497	17
St. Louis	74	78	.487	18½
Pittsburgh	65	87	.428	27½
West	**W**	**L**	**Pct**	**GB**
Los Angeles	84	67	.556	—
San Diego	82	69	.543	2
Arizona	77	75	.507	7½
San Francisco	75	76	.497	9
Colorado	41	110	.272	43

x-Clinched division
z-Clinched playoff berth

Thursday's Games
Cleveland (Bibee 10-11) at Detroit (Skubal 13-5), 1:10 p.m.
Toronto (Bassitt 11-8) at Tampa Bay (Baz 9-12), 1:10 p.m.
San Diego (Vásquez 5-6) at N.Y. Mets (Tong 1-2), 1:10 p.m.
Athletics (Ginn 3-6) at Boston (Bello 11-7), 1:35 p.m.
Seattle (Castillo 9-8) at Kansas City (Lorenzen 5-11), 2:10 p.m.
Miami (Alcantara 9-12) at Colorado (Gordon 6-6), 3:10 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees (Fried 17-5) at Baltimore (Povich 3-7), 7:15 p.m.
Chicago Cubs (Rea 10-6) at Cincinnati (Greene 6-4), 7:15 p.m.
L.A. Angels (Kikuchi 6-11) at Milwaukee (Priester 13-2), 7:40 p.m.
San Francisco (Webb 14-10) at L.A. Dodgers (Yamamoto 11-8), 10:10 p.m.
Friday's Games
Athletics at Pittsburgh, 6:40 p.m.
Atlanta at Detroit, 6:40 p.m.
Chicago Cubs at Cincinnati, 6:40 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees at Baltimore, 7:05 p.m.
Washington at N.Y. Mets, 7:10 p.m.
Boston at Tampa Bay, 7:35 p.m.
San Diego at Chicago White Sox, 7:40 p.m.
Toronto at Kansas City, 7:40 p.m.
Miami at Texas, 8:05 p.m.
Cleveland at Minnesota, 8:10 p.m.
L.A. Angels at Colorado, 8:10 p.m.
Seattle at Houston, 8:10 p.m.
Milwaukee at St. Louis, 8:15 p.m.
Philadelphia at Arizona, 9:40 p.m.
San Francisco at L.A. Dodgers, 10:10 p.m.

Midwest League playoffs

CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES
(Best-of-3; x-if necessary)
Sunday, Sept. 14
West Michigan 5, Cedar Rapids 3
Tuesday, Sept. 16
West Michigan 3, Cedar Rapids 1, West Michigan wins series 2-0

PRO BASKETBALL

WNBA playoffs

FIRST ROUND
(Best-of-3; x-if necessary)
Sunday, Sept. 14
Minnesota 101, Golden State 72
Las Vegas 102, Seattle 77
Atlanta 80, Indiana 68
New York 76, Phoenix 69 (OT)
Tuesday, Sept. 16
Seattle 86, Las Vegas 83, series tied 1-1
Indiana 77, Atlanta 60, series tied 1-1
Wednesday, Sept. 17
Minnesota at Golden State, late
Phoenix at New York, late
Thursday, Sept. 18
Indiana at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
Seattle at Las Vegas, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 19
x-Golden State at Minnesota, TBD
x-New York at Phoenix, TBD

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

AP Top 25 poll

The Top 25 teams in The Associated Press college football poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Sept. 13, total points and previous ranking:

	Record	Pts	Prv
1. Ohio State (55)	3-0	1,631	1
2. Penn State (5)	3-0	1,490	2
3. LSU (2)	3-0	1,470	3
4. Miami (3)	3-0	1,434	5
5. Georgia	3-0	1,428	6
6. Oregon (1)	3-0	1,423	4
7. Florida State	2-0	1,123	10
8. Texas	2-1	1,111	7
9. Illinois	3-0	1,110	9
10. Texas A&M	3-0	1,101	16
11. Oklahoma	3-0	1,056	13
12. Iowa State	4-0	820	14
13. Mississippi	3-0	748	17
14. Alabama	2-1	599	19
15. Tennessee	2-1	583	15
16. Utah	3-0	573	20
17. Texas Tech	3-0	538	21
18. Georgia Tech	3-0	511	—
19. Indiana	3-0	458	22
20. Vanderbilt	3-0	397	—
21. Michigan	2-1	356	23
22. Auburn	3-0	344	24
23. Missouri	3-0	292	25
24. Notre Dame	0-2	207	8
25. Southern Cal	3-0	105	—

Others: BYU 94, South Florida 83, South Carolina 82, Mississippi St. 69, TCU 67, Arizona St. 57, Tulane 33, Louisville 25, Nebraska 9, Baylor 6, Clemson 6, SMU 4, N.C. State 4, UNLV 2, Navy 1.

Sports calendar

	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON
DETROIT TIGERS	vs. Clev. 1:10 p.m. FDSN	vs. Atlanta 6:40 p.m. FDSN	vs. Atlanta 1:10 p.m. FDSN	vs. Atlanta 1:40 p.m. FDSN	
DETROIT LIONS					at Baltimore 8:15 p.m. ABC, ESPN
U-M FOOTBALL				at Nebraska 3:30 p.m. Fox	
MSU FOOTBALL				at USC 11 p.m. Fox	

SOCCER

MLS standings

(Through Tuesday's Matches)

Western	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
San Diego FC	17	8	5	56	55	37
Minnesota United	15	6	9	54	51	33
Vancouver	15	6	7	52	54	31
Seattle	12	8	9	45	51	43
Los Angeles FC	12	7	8	44	49	35
Portland	11	9	9	42	38	39
Austin FC	11	10	8	41	31	36
Colorado	11	13	6	39	40	49
San Jose	9	13	8	35	55	55
Real Salt Lake	10	14	4	34	30	37
FC Dallas	8	11	10	34	42	48
Houston	8	13	9	33	39	49
Kansas City	7	17	6	27	45	61
St Louis City	6	17	7	25	36	51
LA Galaxy	4	16	9	21	35	58
Eastern	**W**	**L**	**T**	**Pts**	**GF**	**GA**
Philadelphia	17	7	6	57	49	33
Cincinnati	17	9	4	55	44	37
Charlotte FC	17	11	2	53	51	40
Nashville	15	10	5	50	50	35
Columbus	13	6	10	49	48	43
Inter Miami CF	14	6	7	49	57	44
Orlando City	13	7	9	48	55	41
New York City FC	14	9	5	47	41	33
Chicago	12	11	6	42	54	53
New York	11	12	7	40	43	40
New England	8	14	8	32	39	44
Toronto FC	5	13	11	26	29	36
Atlanta	5	13	11	26	36	54
D.C. United	5	15	10	25	27	55
CF Montréal	5	16	9	24	29	53

NOTE: Three points for victory, one point for tie.

Saturday, Sept. 20
Charlotte FC at New York City FC, Noon
New England at Philadelphia, 2:30 p.m.
San Diego FC at Atlanta, 4:30 p.m.
Toronto FC at Columbus, 7:30 p.m.
D.C. United at Miami, 7:30 p.m.
New York at CF Montréal, 7:30 p.m.
Nashville at Orlando City, 7:30 p.m.
Colorado at FC Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Portland at Houston, 8:30 p.m.
Vancouver at Kansas City, 8:30 p.m.
Chicago at Minnesota, 8:30 p.m.
Cincinnati at LA Galaxy, 10:30 p.m.
St Louis City at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.
Sunday, Sept. 21
Seattle at Austin FC, 7 p.m.
Salt Lake at Los Angeles FC, 9 p.m.

NWSL standings

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Kansas City	16	2	2	50	38	10
Washington	10	4	6	36	31	25
Gotham FC	8	6	6	30	27	17
Portland	8	6	6	30	29	23
San Diego	8	6	6	30	28	24
Orlando	8	7	5	29	25	21
Seattle	7	6	6	27	25	23
Louisville	7	7	5	26	25	30
North Carolina	6	7	7	25	26	30
Houston	6	9	5	23	24	30
Angel City	6	9	5	23	26	33
Bay FC	4	10	6	18	22	30
Chicago	2	9	9	15	25	39
Utah Royals FC	3	11	6	15	17	33

NOTE: Three points for victory, one point for tie.

Saturday, Sept. 20
Seattle at Kansas City, 7:30 p.m.
San Diego at Portland, 10 p.m.
Sunday, Sept. 21
Gotham FC at Bay FC, 8:30 p.m.

AUTO RACING

NASCAR Cup Series Schedule

The upcoming 2025 schedule:
Sept. 21 — New Hampshire, Loudon, N.H.
Sept. 28 — Kansas, Kansas City, Kan.
Oct. 5 — Bank of America Roval 400, Concord, N.C.
Oct. 12 — South Point 400, Las Vegas
Oct. 19 — Talladega, Talladega, Ala.
Oct. 26 — Martinsville, Ridgeway, Va.
Nov. 2 — NASCAR Championship, Avondale, Ariz.

Formula One schedule

The upcoming 2025 schedule:
Sept. 21 — Azerbaijan GP, Baku
Oct. 5 — Singapore Grand Prix
Oct. 19 — United States Grand Prix, Austin, Texas
Oct. 26 — Gran Premio de Mexico, Mexico City
Nov. 9 — Sao Paulo Grand Prix
Nov. 23 — Las Vegas Grand Prix
Nov. 30 — Qatar GP, Doha, Qatar
Dec. 7 — Abu Dhabi Grand Prix, United Arab Emirates
— *Associated Press*

ON TV

THURSDAY

BASEBALL
1 p.m. MLB, San Diego at N.Y. Mets. MLB
1 p.m. MLB, Cleveland at Detroit. FDSN
4 p.m. MLB, Seattle at Kansas City. MLB
7 p.m. MLB, Chicago Cubs at Cincinnati. MLB
BASKETBALL
7:30 p.m. WNBA Playoffs, Indiana at Atlanta. ESPN2
9:30 p.m. WNBA Playoffs, Seattle at Las Vegas. ESPN2
FOOTBALL
7:30 p.m. College, Rice at Charlotte. ESPN
8:15 p.m. NFL, Miami at Buffalo. Prime Video
GOLF
7:30 a.m. DP World Tour, FedEx Open de France, First Round. Golf
3 p.m. Korn Ferry, Nationwide Children's Hospital Championship, First Round. Golf
SOCCER
12:45 p.m. UEFA Champions, Club Brugge vs. AS Monaco. CBSSN
3 p.m. UEFA Champions, Galatasaray at Eintracht Frankfurt. CBSSN
6 p.m. Women's College, Nebraska at Penn State. BTN
7 p.m. Canadian Championship, Atletico vs. Vancouver FC. FS2
7 p.m. Women's College, UCLA at Michigan State. BTN
7 p.m. Women's College, Mississippi St. at Texas. ESPNU
10 p.m. Women's College, Illinois at Oregon. BTN
10:30 p.m. NWSL, Angel City FC vs. Washington. CBSSN
OTHER
6 a.m. Track & Field, World Championships. USA
6 p.m. Women's Volleyball, Kentucky at Louisville. ESPNU

FRIDAY

AUTO RACING
4:30 a.m. Formula 1, Baku, Azerbaijan, Practice, ESPNU
8 a.m. Formula 1, Baku, Azerbaijan, Practice. ESPNU
4 p.m. NASCAR Trucks, New Hampshire, Practice. FS2
5 p.m. NASCAR Trucks, New Hampshire, Qualifying. FS2
BASEBALL
6:30 p.m. MLB, Atlanta at Detroit. FDSN
6:30 p.m. MLB, Chicago Cubs at Cincinnati. MLB
7:40 p.m. MLB, Toronto at Kansas City. Apple TV
9:30 p.m. MLB, Philadelphia at Arizona. MLB
10 p.m. MLB, San Francisco at L.A. Dodgers. Apple TV
BASKETBALL
7:30 p.m. WNBA Playoffs, Golden State at Minnesota, if necessary. ESPN2
9:30 p.m. WNBA Playoffs, New York at Phoenix, if necessary. ESPN2
FOOTBALL
7 p.m. College, Tulsa at Oklahoma State. ESPN
8 p.m. College, Iowa at Rutgers. Fox
GOLF
7:30 a.m. DP World Tour, FedEx Open de France, Second Round. Golf
1 p.m. Korn Ferry, Nationwide Children's Hospital Championship, Second Round. Golf
4 p.m. LPGA, Walmart NW Arkansas Championship, First Round. Golf
6 p.m. Champions, Pure Insurance Championship, First Round. Golf
SOCCER
7 p.m. Men's College, Pittsburgh at Maryland. BTN
9 p.m. Men's College, Wisconsin at UCLA. BTN
OTHER
7 a.m. Track & Field, World Championships. USA
1 p.m. Horse Racing. F$1
4 p.m. College Field Hockey, Iowa at Indiana. BTN
7 p.m. College Volleyball, Florida at Marquette. FS1
9 p.m. Horse Racing. FS1

SATURDAY

AUTO RACING
4:30 a.m. Formula 1, Baku, Azerbaijan, Practice. ESPN2
8 a.m. Formula 1, Baku, Azerbaijan, Qualifying. ESPNU
Noon NASCAR Trucks, New Hampshire. FS1
3 p.m. NASCAR Cup, New Hampshire, Practice. TruTV
4 p.m. NASCAR Cup, New Hampshire, Qualifying. TruTV
BASEBALL
1 p.m. MLB, Atlanta at Detroit. FDSN
1 p.m. MLB, Cleveland at Minnesota. MLB
4 p.m. MLB, Washington at N.Y. Mets. MLB
7 p.m. MLB, N.Y. Yankees at Baltimore. MLB
10 p.m. MLB, San Francisco at L.A. Dodgers. MLB
FOOTBALL
Noon College, Arkansas at Memphia. ABC
Noon College, Syracuse at Clemson. ESPN
Noon College, North Texas at Army. CBSSN
Noon College, UNLV at Miami (Ohio). ESPNU
Noon College, Texas Tech at Utah. Fox
3:30 p.m. College, Auburn at Oklahoma. ABC
3:30 p.m. College, Michigan at Nebraska. CBS
3:30 p.m. College, Ball State at UConn. CBSSN
3:30 p.m. College, Tulane at Mississippi. ESPN
3:30 p.m. College, James Madison at Liberty. ESPNU
3:30 p.m. College, North Carolina at Central Florida. Fox
3:30 p.m. College, Purdue at Notre Dame. NBC
4 p.m. College, N.C. State at Duke. ESPN2
4:30 p.m. College, Temple at Geogia Tech. CW
6 p.m. College, West Virginia at Kansas. FS1
7 p.m. College, Washington at Washington St. CBS
7 p.m. College, Boise State at Air Force. CBSSN
7 p.m. College, South Carolina at Missouri. ESPN
7:30 p.m. College, Florida at Miami. ABC
7:30 p.m. College, BYU at East Carolina. ESPN2
7:30 p.m. Georgia State at Vanderbilt. ESPNU
10:15 p.m. College, Wyoming at Colorado. ESPN
10:30 p.m. College, California at San Diego St. CBSSN
11 p.m. College, Michigan St. at Southern Cal. Fox
GOLF
7 a.m. DP World Tour, FedEx Open de France, Third Round. Golf
1 p.m. Korn Ferry, Nationwide Children's Hospital Championship, Third Round. Golf
4 p.m. LPGA, Walmart NW Arkansas Championship, Second Round. Golf
6 p.m. Champions, Pure Insurance Championship, Second Round. Golf
SOCCER
7:30 a.m. English League One, Coventry City at Leicester City. CBSSN
7:30 a.m. English Premier, Everton at Liverpool. USA
10 a.m. English Premier, Newcastle United at AFC Bournemouth. USA
12:30 p.m. English Premier, Chelsea at Manchester United. USA
3 p.m. Canadian Premier, Teams TBD. FS2
3 p.m. English Premier, Brentford at Fulham. USA
6 p.m. Canadian Premier, Teams TBD. FS2
OTHER
9:30 a.m. Sailing, Geneva. CBSSN
1 p.m. Horse Racing. FS2
2 p.m. Horse Racing. FS1
6:30 p.m. Women's Volleyball, Iowa State at Illinois. BTN

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

THINGS THAT ARE RANKED **Solution: 8 letters**

S	S	G	T	Y	Y	E	T	L	Ⓒ	T	E	S	T	D
R	T	R	M	S	T	N	A	R	U	Ⓐ	T	S	E	R
S	E	R	E	B	E	T	A	T	A	A	Ⓡ	S	C	E
T	A	L	O	D	I	W	R	P	N	V	T	Ⓢ	H	D
A	S	O	I	P	A	O	O	D	M	I	E	C	N	R
R	K	I	S	A	S	E	I	L	N	O	C	L	O	O
S	C	O	T	E	T	N	L	A	T	O	C	A	L	R
H	H	H	R	R	G	E	T	S	L	S	L	S	O	A
I	A	O	T	N	A	I	R	L	I	N	E	S	G	T
G	R	C	R	G	O	I	E	A	L	C	T	M	Y	I
H	T	K	U	N	F	G	B	E	P	T	O	E	A	N
E	S	E	S	R	E	A	V	A	E	M	H	A	L	G
S	S	Y	T	S	R	E	Y	A	L	O	O	H	C	S
T	I	E	R	S	L	S	M	S	E	L	A	C	S	H
C	R	U	I	S	E	S	E	N	I	Z	A	G	A	M

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Yesterday's Answer: Breed

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11027357-04

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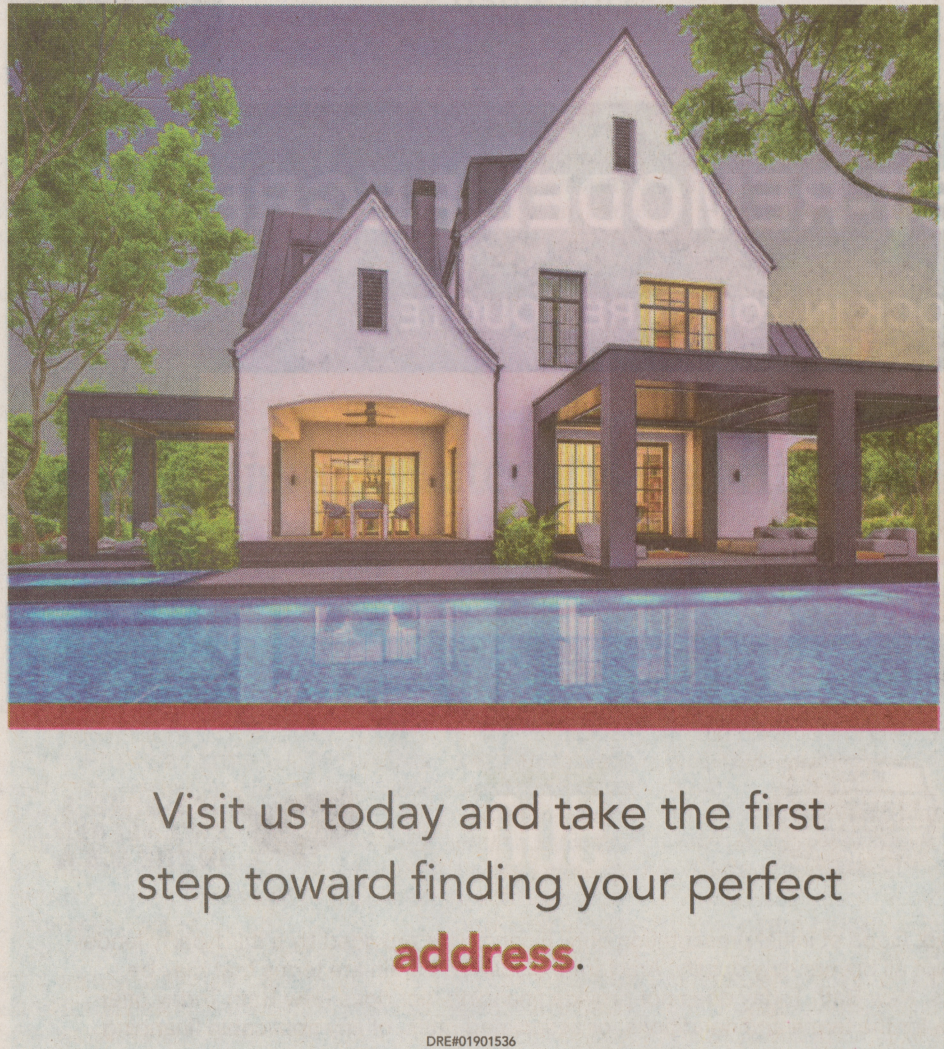

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

PUBLIC NOTICES

Crown Castle is proposing to install three (3) 45-foot telecommunications utility structures at the following sites: 210 W Stadium Blvd, Ann Arbor, MI 48103 (42.264104°, -83.750687°); 485 E Stadium Blvd, Ann Arbor, MI 48104 (42.263758°, -83.744195°); and 196 E Stadium Blvd, Ann Arbor, MI 48104 (42.264167°, -83.747600°). Crown Castle invites comments from any interested party on the impact of the proposed action on any districts, sites, buildings, structures or objects significant in American history, archaeology, engineering or culture that are listed or determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and/or specific reason the proposed action may have a significant impact on the quality of the human environment. Specific information regarding the project is available by contacting Erika, e.diak@trileaf.com 314-997-6111 during normal business hours. Comments must be received at 1515 Des Peres Road, St. Louis, MO 63131 within 30 days of this publication.

Notice of Auction
Friday September 26, 2025
10:00 AM
Wall Street Towing
876 Railroad
Ypsilanti MI 48197

Washtenaw County Sheriffs Department
2011 Toyota Tundra
5TFRM5F1XBX024146

2009 Honda Civic
JHMFA36279S005343

2010 Buick LaCrosse
1G4GC5EG5AF177226

2020 Wolf Rugby MP
L5YACBAV7M1109727

2013 Ford Focus
1FADP3K27DL156527

2009 Dodge Charger
2B3KA33V19H562742

1996 Ford Explorer
1FMDU34X9TZB92433

2000 Ford Focus
1FAFP34P2YW298760

2009 Dodge Charger
2B3KA43T59H630027

2008 Saturn Vue
3GSCL53788S505139

2001 GMC Yukon XL
3GKFK16T31G207401

2014 Chevrolet Equinox
2GNALDEK7E6101099

2008 Infiniti QX56
5N3AA08C38N902076

2014 Chevrolet Traverse
1GNKVGKD9EJ279587

2007 Pontiac G6
1G2ZG58N774271953

PUBLIC NOTICES

2006 Ford Explorer
1FMEU62E66UA32549

2025 Mazda CX5
JM3KFBBL5S0542392

2005 Ford Freestyle
1FMZK03165GA76693

2013 Smart Fortwo
WMEEJ3BA2DK695183

2006 Dodge Stratus
1B3EL46X46N123452

2010 Ford Fusion
3FAHP0HA5AR133338

2005 Chrysler Pacifica
2C8GF68425R533146

2010 Dodge Journey
3D4PH6FV5AT129260

2011 Kia Rio 5
KNADH5A37B6809055

2008 Saturn Vue
3GSCL33P18S642816

2010 Ford Focus
1FAHP3FN6AW144269

2014 Dodge Journey
3C4PDCBB8ET153643

Ann Arbor Police Department
2010 Chevrolet Malibu
1G1ZE5EB7AF236586

2011 Dodge Journey
3D4PG3FG2BT540507

Michigan State Police Department
2006 Jeep Liberty
1J4GL48K76W253724

2010 Honda Civic
19XFA1F58AE013281

Van Buren Police Department
2002 Chrysler PT Cruiser
3C4FY58B72T363777

2017 Chevrolet Malibu
1G1ZE5ST2HF272628

Canton Police Department
2011 Ford Taurus
1FAHP2EW0BG101630

2011 Mini Cooper Countryman
WMWZB3C56BWM29330

2008 Pontiac Torrent
2CKDL43F986293733

HEARING NOTICE
PITTSFIELD CHARTER TOWNSHIP
RZ#25-03
5801 S. STATE
CONDITIONAL
REZONING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a regular meeting of the Pittsfield Township Planning Commission will be held at the Pittsfield Township Administration Building located at 6201 W. Michigan Avenue, Ann Arbor, MI 48108 on Thursday, October 9, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.

At this meeting, the Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing, RZ#25-03 to consider a conditional rezoning of property from C-2, General Commercial to R-2, Low Density Multiple-Family Residential. The property is located at 5801 S. State Road (L-12-21-300-012), Ann Arbor, MI 48108, Pittsfield Charter Township, Washtenaw County, Michigan.

Additional information may be obtained at the Township Administration Building, and

PUBLIC NOTICES

may be examined until the date of the hearing, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Any person who wishes to contact members of the Planning Commission to provide input or ask questions on any business coming before the Planning Commission on October 9, 2025 may do so by calling (734) 822-3130 or emailing planning@pittsfield-mi.gov prior to the meeting. Written comments will be received at planning@pittsfield-mi.gov until 3:00 p.m. the day of the hearing.

Reasonable auxiliary aids and services can be provided at the meeting to individuals with disabilities by contacting the Clerk's Office at (734) 822-3120 or via email at Clerk@pittsfield-mi.gov at least three business days in advance.

This notice is in compliance with PA 267 of 1976, as amended, (Open Meetings Act), MCL 125.3103 and 125.3502, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

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8'-9' $1250 ea
Concolor Fir
6'-7' $750 ea
8'-9' $1350 ea
Red Maple
12'-14' $695 ea
Fruit Trees
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$195 ea
Green Giant
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6'-7' $300 ea
7'-8' $375 ea
8'-9' $455 ea
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11020045-03

ADVICE

ASKING ERIC

Boyfriend has dream wedding plan but won't propose

Dear Eric: My good friend has been with her boyfriend for more than 20 years. She finally moved into his house after her mom died a year and a half ago. They attend each other's family events — weddings, funerals, birthdays, sports events, work parties — and he tells her he loves her.

He's had every detail of his future wedding already planned out, including who the groomsmen will be and where he wants to get married. Unfortunately, after every holiday or special event, there's never an engagement ring for my friend. His girlfriend before my friend was a thinner blonde who dumped him.

After more than 20 years, do you think he'll ever propose and get married to my friend? *Bridesmaid-in-Waiting*

Dear Bridesmaid: Sure, it's possible. It'll be even more likely to happen if your friend and her boyfriend have an honest, frank conversation about their wants and the details of their individual timetables.

While it might seem obvious that, after 20 years, he should want to propose, especially considering he's already designed a dream wedding, the only way to find out what he's really thinking is talking to him about it. This is also the only way for your friend to let him know what she's thinking.

Often in long-term relationships, we start to assume our partners have enough data to be mind readers. And sometimes, too, we assume we know every neuron firing in the head resting on the opposite pillow. But, of course, that's not fully true.

Even if someone wants to have a surprise proposal, and all the fanfare that that entails, it's crucial for the health of the relationship to keep lines of communication open.

Dear Eric: I've heard, informally, that my nieces and nephews have collectively decided that the entire family (including me) will gather for the college graduation of one of my great-nephews in May. I wasn't involved in that decision, but that's OK. It's not my child or event. (I don't have children.) I am also the only living uncle.

I have no interest in going. These family events involve so many people; it is difficult to spend any meaningful time with anyone. In addition, it's on the other side of the country, and the graduate-to-be and I have never been close. He has barely spoken to me at other gatherings and has never acknowledged the (cash) gifts I have sent over the years for birthdays, Christmas or his high school graduation. Although that seems to be the rule anymore, and not the exception.

This will be the first of such graduations that will happen almost yearly for some time. Not to mention the eventual weddings.

The dilemma is, if I skip one or two but go to others, there will likely be hard feelings among relatives. And if I go to this one (reluctantly), am I obligated to go to all of them?

Fortunately, it's not a financial burden. And I'm retired, so time is not an issue. But it feels more like a root canal appointment than a good time. I feel like there is no "everyone happy" scenario here. Am I missing a solution? *Go or No*

Dear Go or No: If you don't want to go, don't go and tell them the dates just don't work out for you. You don't have to make up a fictional vacation or some other elaborate excuse. But you have your own life, schedule and priorities and it's true that this event does not fit into those.

By addressing this head-on and early, you also have the opportunity to send your well wishes, and a gift if you so desire. You also have the opportunity to set a precedent that's fair and that works for you. That precedent: you'll come when you can. There's nothing stopping you from making the upcoming milestones feel special for your great-nieces and great-nephews in a way that's specific to you, your relationship and your capacity.

To your point that there may be hard feelings: everyone's feelings are their responsibility. If you're upfront with your relatives and make a good faith effort to honor the celebrants, you don't have anything to feel bad about.

Dear Eric: In response to "Grieving Granddad's" letter regarding the loss of his longtime dog companion, thank you so much for recommending adopting an older dog. I would also add that he, or anyone who isn't sure about a fur-ever commitment but wants dog(s) in their lives, might consider dog foster care. *Foster Dog Parent*

Dear Foster: A great suggestion. Another note that came up in the responses to this question is that everyone, of any age, should make sure that there are plans in place for a friend or relative to take care of the dog if the owner is incapacitated or dies.

Send questions to R. Eric Thomas at eric@askingeric.com or P.O. Box 22474, Philadelphia, PA 19110. Follow him on Instagram and sign up for his weekly newsletter at rericthomas.com.

CAROLYN HAX

When parents divorce, does school-year timing matter for kids?

Carolyn Hax is away. The following column was previously published in 2024.

Dear Carolyn: My husband and I recently agreed that we both want a divorce. It has been years in the making and absolutely the right choice. He is emotionally abusive and generally a passive passenger just along for the ride in our family life.

He will move out and the kids and I will remain in the house, with them visiting him every other weekend. We need a little time to sort out separating our finances, but I'm eager to start my new life without him weighing us down.

Part of me wants to wait until next summer so the transition happens outside the school year, and part of me wishes he would just get the heck out already, like maybe this fall.

Is there a time of year that's best for kids to deal with this type of change? *Eager*

Eager: An emotional abuser in the house for nine months with no pro-marriage incentives left sounds so much worse than some awkward timing on a separation. Plus, limbo is awful, everyone can feel it, and I'm sure your kids already have had max exposure to a parent who openly just doesn't want to be there.

It's also possible the start of a school year would help the kids through a transition because it comes with structure, purpose, time out of the house and (I hope) immersion in their friends.

So my instinct says to arrange other housing for their dad as soon as possible.

I urge you also to bring a therapist on board, if possible and as soon as possible, to give you seasoned guidance through this and other decisions as they crop up in the divorce process.

Many readers responded in the chat with first-person accounts, so I'm including a bunch in hopes they're useful:

- My experience was that once the decision was made to divorce, it became very stressful to continue living in the same house. Once he had moved out, and the kids saw how the new living arrangement would go, they got adjusted before school started. I had a lot more energy and felt lighter and happier, and that was very supportive for the kids.
- Divorce lawyer here. No such thing as a "right time," but in my experience, "agreements" to separate often don't age well. The departing party will often have second thoughts and/or come up with reasons to delay the separation. So go for it. The kids will manage, especially if you consult a therapist, and they'll be better off when they're no longer exposed to the marital tension.
- Starting school can be a helpful distraction for your kids during a massive and hard transition. Please alert the teachers ahead of time, and your school counselor.
- Having the kids in school will provide more trusted adults looking after their well-being. I am speaking as a child of divorce, and now a high school special educator focused on well-being.
- Act promptly with an attorney to establish rules of separation. Also batten down your personal bank accounts with new passwords and other identifying information. A good attorney will help you think through your personal needs.
- Do it sooner rather than later. The kids already know what's going on. They don't need to see any more of it.

Email Carolyn at tellme@washpost.com, follow her on Facebook at www.facebook.com/carolyn.hax or chat with her online at noon Eastern time each Friday at www.washingtonpost.com.

DEAR ANNIE

When relationships shift

Dear Annie: My sister "Claire" and I have always been close, but things have shifted since she had her first baby eight months ago. I understand that motherhood changes things, but lately I feel like I've been pushed to the sidelines. Every conversation revolves around the baby, and when I try to bring up anything going on in my life, she either tunes out or cuts the conversation short because the baby "needs her."

I've tried to be supportive — babysitting, dropping off meals — but it's starting to feel one-sided. I miss our friendship, and I don't know how to talk to her about this without sounding selfish or like I don't understand how hard this phase is for her.

Do I need to just wait this out and hope things go back to normal? *Missing My Sister*

Dear Missing My Sister: Claire probably misses you, too — she just may not have the capacity to show it right now. New motherhood is all-consuming, and while this season feels long, it is temporary. Your bond isn't gone, just under strain from a major life shift.

Keep showing up for her, but also give space for when she's ready to reconnect more fully. When things settle, gently suggest some one-on-one time. Your relationship may look different moving forward, but that doesn't mean it won't be just as meaningful.

Dear Annie: I've been friends with "Lena" since college, and we've always had a close, supportive relationship. But lately, I've noticed a pattern that's starting to wear on me.

Every time something good happens in my life — a promotion, a trip, even small wins — she either downplays it or changes the subject back to her own struggles.

I know she's been going through a tough time with her job and her mental health, and I've tried to be a good listener. But I'm starting to feel like there's no room for my joy around her.

I've pulled back a bit, and now she's asking why I'm being distant. I don't want to hurt her, but I also don't feel like I can keep shrinking myself to protect her feelings.

How do I bring this up in a way that's honest but kind? And what if she can't handle hearing it? *Feeling Small Around My Friend*

Dear Feeling Small: Good friends celebrate each other's wins. It's OK for her to feel jealous and still be happy for you; those feelings can exist at the same time. The key is being able to hold space for both, without shutting you down.

When you talk to Lena, be direct but gentle. Try: "I've noticed when I share good news, it often gets brushed aside. It's been hard feeling like I can't be fully myself with you."

She may be surprised, even defensive — but you'll be giving her clarity and opportunity to redeem your friendship.

Supporting Lena does not mean muting your own life.

Annie Lane's second anthology — "How Can I Forgive My Cheating Partner?" featuring favorite columns on marriage, infidelity, communication and reconciliation — is available as a paperback and e-book. Visit http://www.creatorspublishing.com for more information. Send your questions for Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.com.

THE ACES ON BRIDGE

BOBBY WOLFF

09-18-A

NORTH
♠ K J
♥ A K 7 2
♦ A Q 3
♣ A J 6 2

WEST
♠ Q 8
♥ Q 10 8 4 3
♦ J 10 7 5
♣ Q 4

EAST
♠ 7 4
♥ J 9 6 5
♦ K 9 4 2
♣ 9 8 7

SOUTH
♠ A 10 9 6 5 3 2
♥ ---
♦ 8 6
♣ K 10 5 3

Vulnerable: Both
Dealer: East

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
			Pass
3♠	Pass	6♠	All pass

Opening Lead: Diamond jack

"The Messiah will come only when he is no longer necessary; he will come only on the day after his arrival; he will come, not on the last day, but at the very last."
— Franz Kafka

The match between teams Ware and Foster in the final round of the Open Teams qualifying event at the 2025 Gold Coast Congress would see the winner advance to the next stage and the loser drowning their sorrows ... or so I thought when I sat down to watch.

Both tables declared six spades here. Rob Fruewirth, for Ware (the pre-tournament favorites) won the diamond jack lead and discarded his remaining diamond on a top heart, but then he misguessed spades. When a diamond came back, he ducked in dummy and then ran his trumps.

At this point, it looks right to me to come down to four clubs and a spade in hand facing the heart king, diamond queen and ace-jack-low in clubs. When the last trump is played, declarer discards the club jack from dummy. He then crosses to the club ace to play the heart king. That forces East to discard down to one club in order to keep the diamond king, whereupon declarer can lead a club to the king, felling West's doubleton queen. The show-up squeeze lands the slam here.

Fruewirth did not follow this line and ended up down two after misguessing clubs. This cost 17 international match points, leaving his side the loser by 32-34. That 2-IMP differential left the two teams tied, down to two decimal places, for the final qualifying spot. However, Ware won the split tie and advanced to the quarterfinals (technically a round of six, with the top two qualifiers having a bye to the semifinals, the other four fighting it out for the two remaining places).

BID WITH THE ACES

09-18-B

South holds:
♠ A 10 9 6 5 3 2
♥ ---
♦ 8 6
♣ K 10 5 3

South	West	North	East
			2♥
?			

Answer: You are not supposed to preempt over a preempt, but this hand has too much playing strength to stay quiet. Bid two spades to show a good hand. While I would be the first to admit you are short in high cards, your extra shape more than makes up for it. Sometimes staying silent is far more dangerous than bidding. In my opinion, this is one such time.

Yes, Mom would laugh at the comic strip. Send it to her.

Subscribe today!

PUZZLES

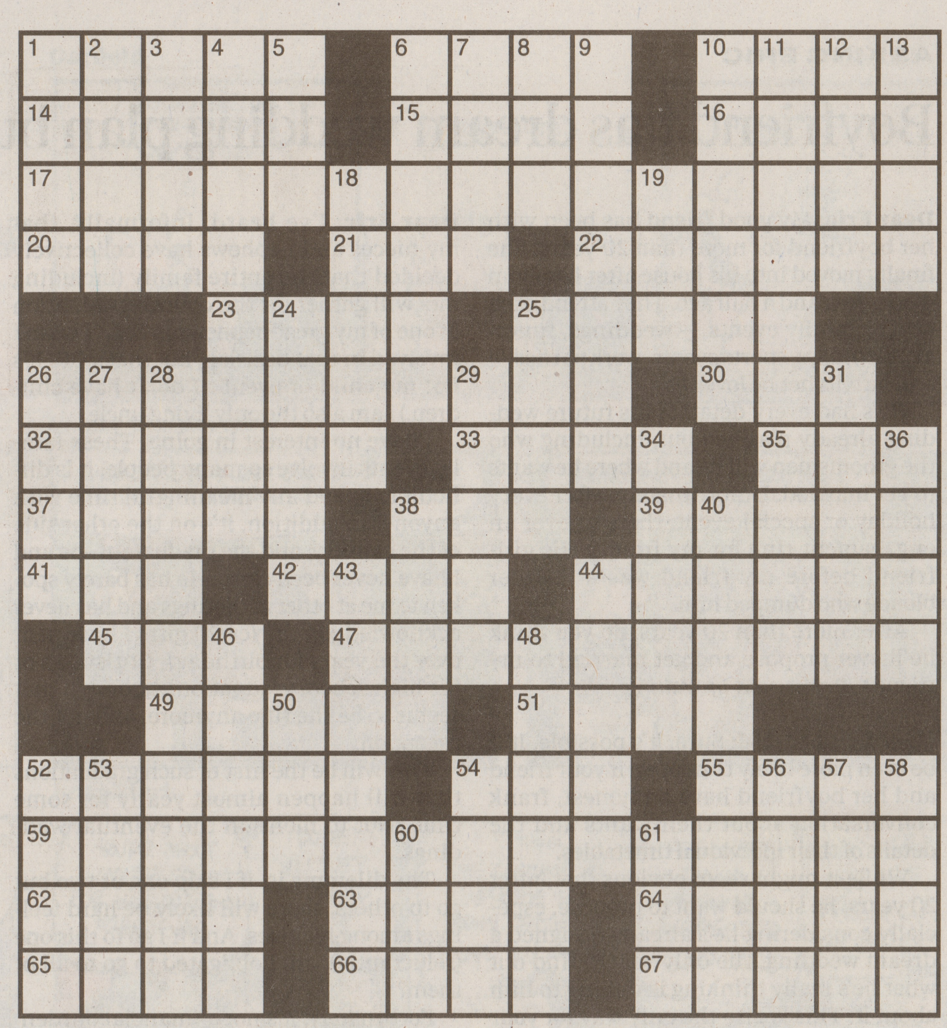
LOS ANGELES TIMES CROSSWORD

Across

1 Norimaki or gunkanmaki
6 Swiss Army Knife's array
10 Yemen's Gulf of __
14 Budget-friendly
15 Home of the Shipibo-Conibo people
16 Wrapped garment
17
20 Blabbed
21 Tear (up)
22 Zigs and zags
23 Send
25 Actress Essman
26
30 Part of a circumference
32 Like some grapes and tennis players
33 Union fees
35 Cry noisily
37 Rubber tree goo
38 Playground game
39 Kick back
41 Funny bone spot
42 Succinct "No time to waste!"
44 Get down
45 5-Down regulators: Abbr.
47
49 Gleam
51 Frees (of)
52 Galápagos lizard
54 Casual greetings
55 Make at work
59 Is completely unaware, or what can be said about 17-, 26-, and 47-Across
62 Gal
63 Start of a classic palindrome implausibly attributed to Napoleon
64 Pointe shoe fabric
65 "Keep Commerce Human" website
66 Low on the Mohs' scale
67 "Poor Things" Oscar winner

Down

1 One who may be loched in?
2 "Not for all the tea in China"
3 Elephant __
4 Crafted with care
5 NYSE debut
6 Like their walks to school (in the snow, both ways), per some grandparents
7 Flow slowly
8 Fumble
9 "Yo, bro!"
10 Maine attraction
11 Posting with a hazard symbol, e.g.
12 Duel-purpose tool?
13 Catches
18 Simple chord
19 __ Angeles
24 Speaker of the house?
25 Formfitting
26 Puerto Rico, por ejemplo
27 Comes close
28 "I bet I know what you're going to say"
29 Modify to fit
31 Infant's ailment
34 Reprimand
36 "This tastes terrible"
38 Like a bedsheet with no creases
40 Purrr-fect roommate
43 Some Bach works
44 Capital city with a New Year's Eve Potato Drop
46 Sophisticated
48 Spot for a hot pot
50 Place to stay
52 Not engaged
53 Kid at a petting zoo
54 13.1 miles of a marathon, e.g.
56 Midrange voice
57 Total
58 Hawaii's state bird
60 "The White Lotus" airer
61 Pack animal



NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD

Edited by Will Shortz

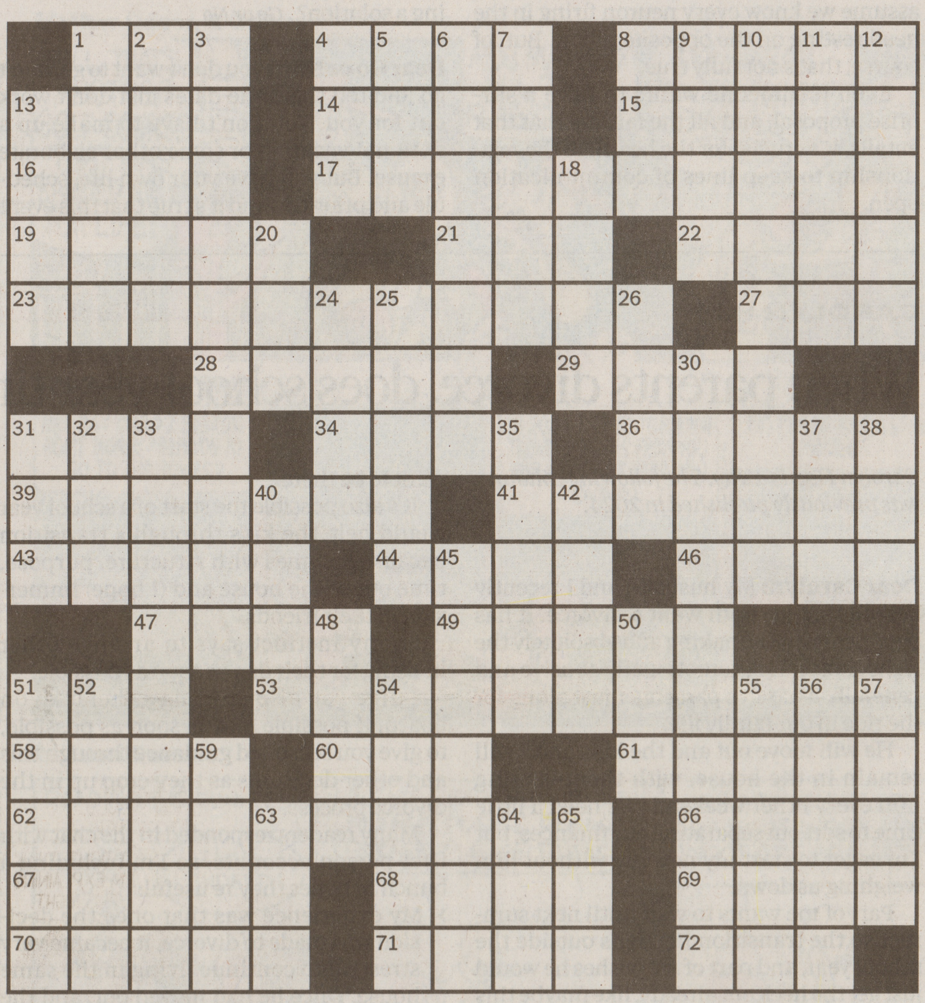
No. 0814

Across

1 Molecule that stores energy in the body, in brief
4 Word before rope or scare
8 Loose-limbed
13 Talk like a tippler
14 Far from shore
15 City on the Nile
16 Do a collie's work
17 ["I'll take 'Tennis' for $200, Ken"] It means nothing
19 Pre-med track precursor, in brief
21 Cookie holder
22 Not many
23 ["Let's go with 'Nickname's the Same' for $400"] Bruce Springsteen, Lance Armstrong and Melissa McCarthy in a 2016 comedy
27 Transistor states
28 Honda luxury brand
29 Over yonder
31 Bubbles, e.g.
34 Hauls
36 Muscle-and-bone doc
39 ["Give me 'The Academy' for $600"] This was only the second animated film to be nominated for Best Picture, after "Beauty and the Beast"
41 ["How about 'Sports and Comedy' for $800"] He was on first base, per Abbott and Costello
43 The Supreme Court justices, collectively
44 Charlie's Angels, e.g.
46 Swanky
47 Doubled or tripled, say
49 Gas brand with a torch in its logo
51 Savanna prey
53 ["I'll try 'Painted Ladies' for $1,000"] This piece by Impressionist Mary Cassatt shows two women enjoying a drink
58 Kelly of morning TV
60 Guile
61 Key ring?
62 At risk ... or where one might hear the clue-and-answer pairs at 17-, 23-, 39-, 41- and 53-Across?
66 "Thus with a kiss ___": Romeo
67 Norwegian coastal feature
68 In one's birthday suit
69 Try to win over
70 Forbidden
71 Go like a geyser
72 Word after kick or dumb

Down

1 Hebrew leader?
2 Booster for a dragster
3 Result of a scandal going viral, in brief
4 Jabber
5 Escort in the theater, informally
6 Human, to a robot
7 Outdoor party area
8 ___ Palmas, capital of the Canaries
9 Cuba o Puerto Rico
10 A winning scenario in a best-of-three game
11 Sanctuary
12 TV show that has existed since before online media, despite what its name suggests
13 "Man and Superman" playwright
18 Tech sch.
20 Like easy-to-get meds, in brief
24 Peacock competitor
25 Go off
26 Drive off
30 Horatian work of ca. 18 B.C.
31 Not rent, say
32 Greek "P"
33 Incredible work
35 Does a crawl, say
37 Dept. that oversees the F.D.A.
38 "Look at that!"
40 Gumbo, for one
42 Terrifying sound for a field mouse
45 Terrifying device for a field mouse
48 Larrup
50 When repeated, a dance
51 Dirty money
52 Symbol of stealth
54 Emiratis, e.g.
55 Some list items
56 Mount St. ___, second-highest peak in Canada
57 Trebek who once hosted this puzzle's theme
59 Nestlé chocolate bar
63 Lead-in to meter
64 Dr. ___ of rap
65 Poison source in Agatha Christie's "A Pocket Full of Rye"



SCRABBLEGRAMS

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O_1 U_1 H_4 M_3 G_2 T_1 S_1 Double Word Score RACK 1

A_1 A_1 A_1 I_1 C_3 L_1 P_3 3rd Letter Triple RACK 2

I_1 I_1 O_1 N_1 C_3 F_4 T_1 RACK 3

E_1 O_1 U_1 U_1 L_1 D_2 T_1 RACK 4

PAR SCORE 145-155
BEST SCORE 212

FOUR RACK TOTAL ____
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. Finally, 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All the words are in the Official SCRABBLE® Players Dictionary, 5th Edition.

For more information on tournaments and clubs, email NASPA - North American SCRABBLE Players Association info@scrabbleplayers.org. Visit our website - www.scrabbleplayers.org. For puzzle inquiries contact scrgrams@gmail.com

09-18

JUMBLE

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

SUDEO

URTIF

MGBTIA

SIFNHI

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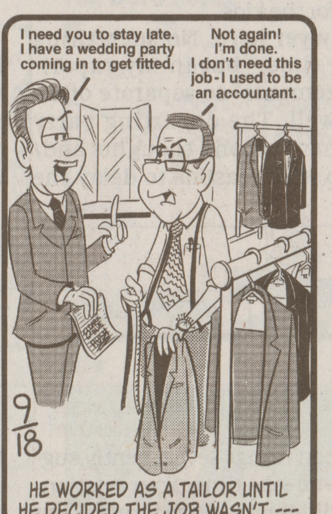

I need you to stay late. I have a wedding party coming in to get fitted.
Not again! I'm done. I don't need this job - I used to be an accountant.
9/18
HE WORKED AS A TAILOR UNTIL HE DECIDED THE JOB WASN'T ---

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

SUDOKU

Level 1 2 **3** 4

9			5		4			
		7		6		3		
3	6				8		9	
	9		4					
		2	7		5	4		
					3			
	8		2				6	3
		3		5		2		
			3		6			7

PUZZLE ANSWERS

Jumble

DOUSE FRUIT GAMBIT FINISH
He worked as a tailor until he decided the job wasn't — SUITED FOR HIM

Scrabblegrams

M_3 U_1 G_2 S_1 H_4 O_1 T_1 RACK 1 = 76
A_1 L_1 P_3 A_1 C_3 A_1 RACK 2 = 16
F_4 I_1 C_3 T_1 I_1 O_1 N_1 RACK 3 = 62
O_1 U_1 T_1 D_2 U_1 E_1 L_1 RACK 4 = 58
PAR SCORE 145-155 TOTAL 212

Mepham Sudoku

9	2	8	5	3	4	6	7	1
1	5	7	9	6	2	3	8	4
3	6	4	1	7	8	5	9	2
5	9	6	4	2	1	7	3	8
8	3	2	7	9	5	4	1	6
4	7	1	6	8	3	9	2	5
7	8	5	2	4	9	1	6	3
6	1	3	8	5	7	2	4	9
2	4	9	3	1	6	8	5	7

New York Times Crossword

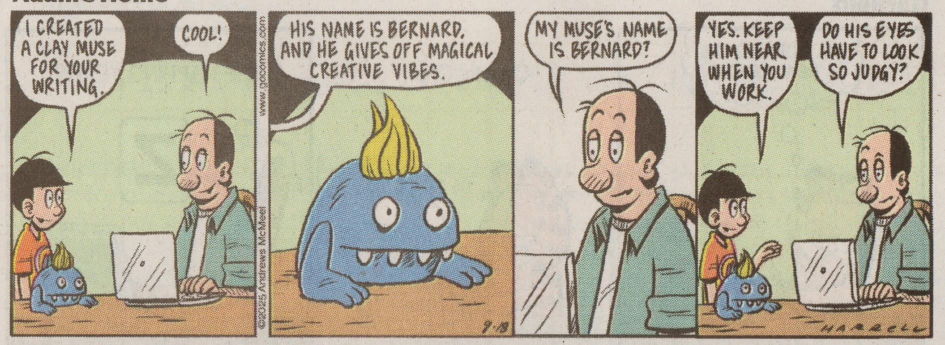
■	A	T	P	■	J	U	M	P	■	L	I	T	H	E
S	L	U	R	■	A	S	E	A	■	A	S	W	A	N
H	E	R	D	■	W	H	A	T	I	S	L	O	V	E
A	P	B	I	O	■	■	T	I	N	■	A	F	E	W
W	H	O	S	T	H	E	B	O	S	S	■	O	N	S
■	■	■	A	C	U	R	A	■	T	H	A	R	■	■
O	R	B	S	■	L	U	G	S	■	O	R	T	H	O
W	H	A	T	S	U	P	■	W	H	O	S	W	H	O
N	O	N	E	T	■	T	R	I	O	■	P	O	S	H
■	■	G	R	E	W	■	A	M	O	C	O	■	■	■
G	N	U	■	W	H	A	T	S	T	H	E	T	E	A
R	I	P	A	■	A	R	T	■	■	A	T	O	L	L
I	N	J	E	O	P	A	R	D	Y	■	I	D	I	E
F	J	O	R	D	■	B	A	R	E	■	C	O	A	X
T	A	B	O	O	■	S	P	E	W	■	A	S	S	■

Los Angeles Times Crossword

S	U	S	H	I	■	U	S	E	S	■	A	D	E	N
C	H	E	A	P	■	P	E	R	U	■	C	A	P	E
O	N	A	N	O	T	H	E	R	P	L	A	N	E	T
T	O	L	D	■	R	I	P	■	D	O	D	G	E	S
■	■	■	M	A	I	L	■	S	U	S	I	E	■	■
I	N	L	A	L	A	L	A	N	D	■	A	R	C	■
S	E	E	D	E	D	■	D	U	E	S	■	S	O	B
L	A	T	E	X	■	T	A	G	■	C	H	I	L	L
A	R	M	■	A	S	A	P	■	B	O	O	G	I	E
■	S	E	C	■	O	U	T	T	O	L	U	N	C	H
■	■	G	L	I	N	T	■	R	I	D	S	■	■	■
I	G	U	A	N	A	■	H	I	S	■	E	A	R	N
D	O	E	S	N	T	H	A	V	E	A	C	L	U	E
L	A	S	S	■	A	B	L	E	■	S	A	T	I	N
E	T	S	Y	■	S	O	F	T	■	S	T	O	N	E

COMICS

Adam@Home


I CREATED A CLAY MUSE FOR YOUR WRITING.
COOL!
HIS NAME IS BERNARD, AND HE GIVES OFF MAGICAL CREATIVE VIBES.
MY MUSE'S NAME IS BERNARD?
YES. KEEP HIM NEAR WHEN YOU WORK.
DO HIS EYES HAVE TO LOOK SO JUDGY?
www.gocomics.com
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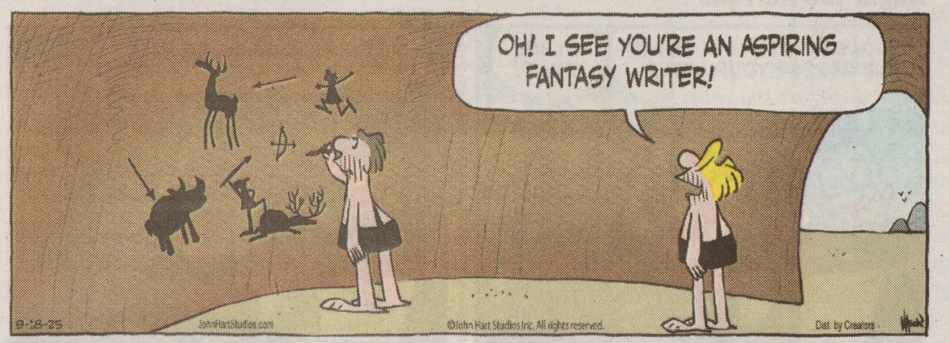
9-18
HARRELL

B.C.


OH! I SEE YOU'RE AN ASPIRING FANTASY WRITER!
9-18-25
JohnHartStudios.com
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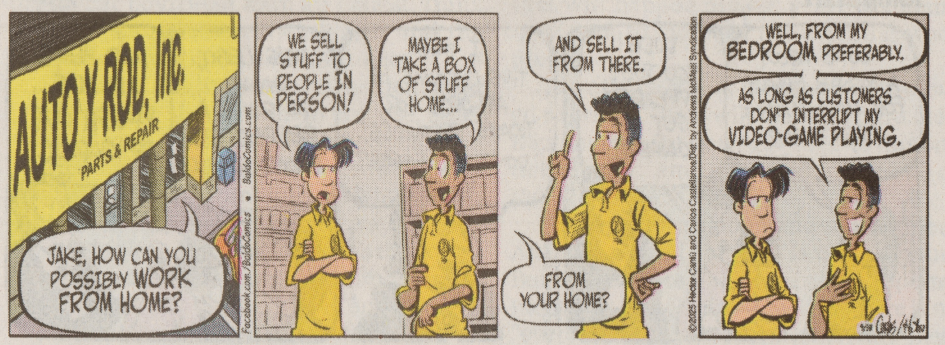
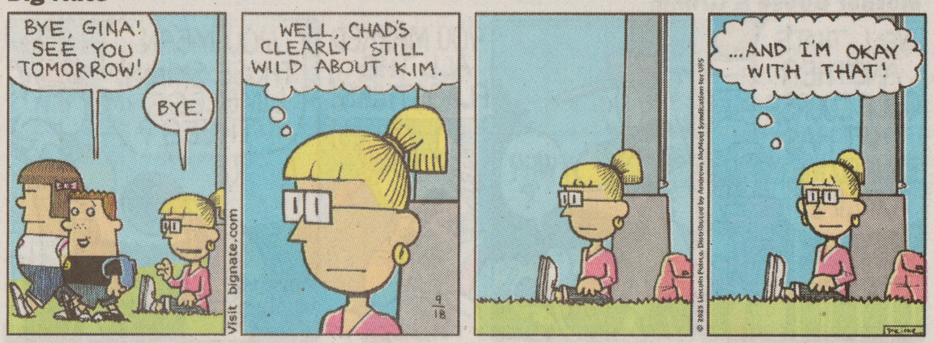
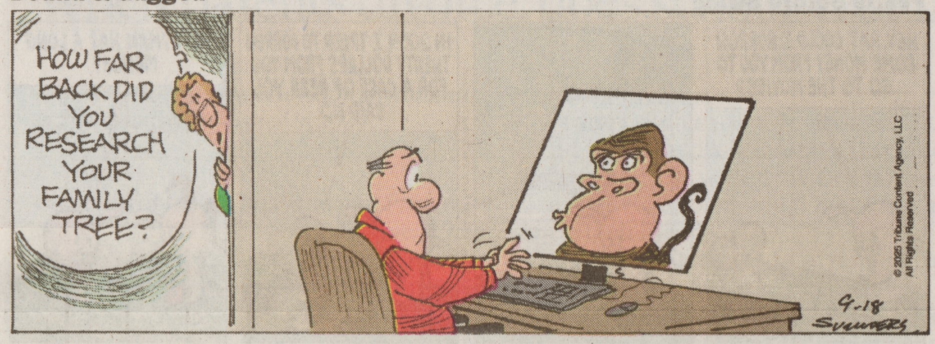
Baldo


AUTO Y ROD, Inc.
PARTS & REPAIR
JAKE, HOW CAN YOU POSSIBLY WORK FROM HOME?
Facebook.com/BaldoComics • BaldoComics.com
WE SELL STUFF TO PEOPLE IN PERSON!
MAYBE I TAKE A BOX OF STUFF HOME...
AND SELL IT FROM THERE.
FROM YOUR HOME?
©2025 Hector Cantú and Carlos Castellanos/Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication
WELL, FROM MY BEDROOM, PREFERABLY.
AS LONG AS CUSTOMERS DON'T INTERRUPT MY VIDEO-GAME PLAYING.

Big Nate


BYE, GINA! SEE YOU TOMORROW!
BYE.
Visit bignate.com
WELL, CHAD'S CLEARLY STILL WILD ABOUT KIM.
9 18
...AND I'M OKAY WITH THAT!

Bound & Gagged


HOW FAR BACK DID YOU RESEARCH YOUR FAMILY TREE?
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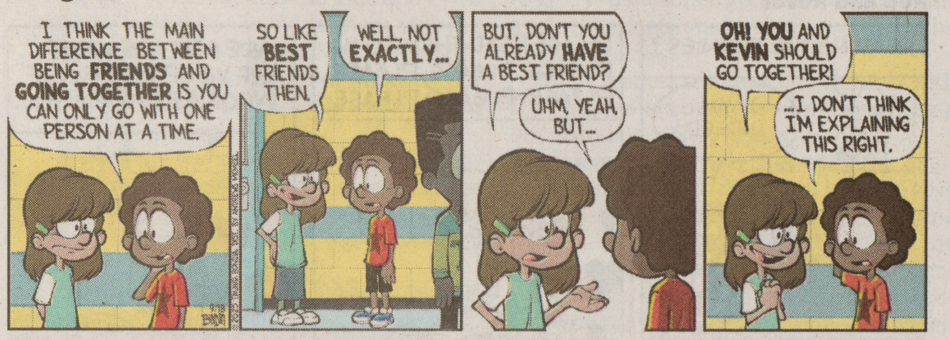
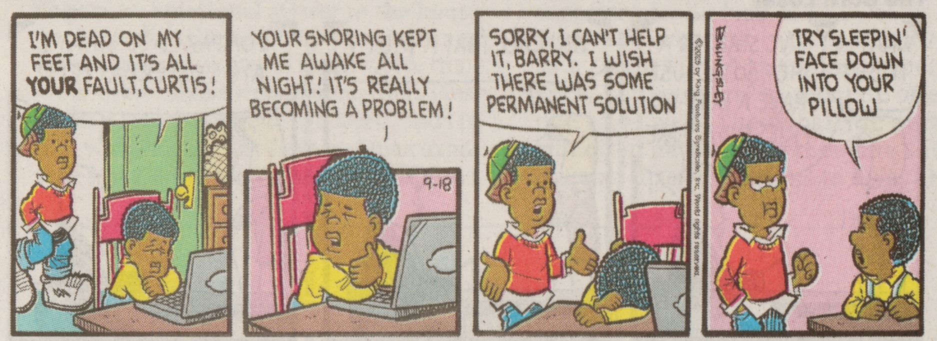
9-18
SUMMERS

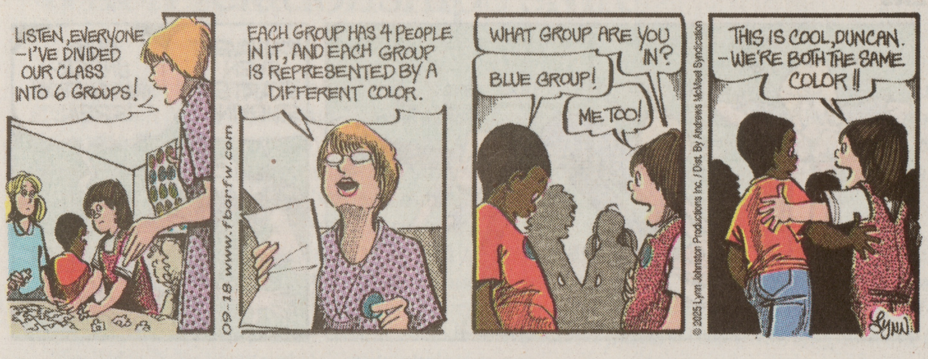
Crabgrass


I THINK THE MAIN DIFFERENCE BETWEEN BEING FRIENDS AND GOING TOGETHER IS YOU CAN ONLY GO WITH ONE PERSON AT A TIME.
SO LIKE BEST FRIENDS THEN.
WELL, NOT EXACTLY...
BUT, DON'T YOU ALREADY HAVE A BEST FRIEND?
UHM, YEAH, BUT...
OH! YOU AND KEVIN SHOULD GO TOGETHER!
...I DON'T THINK I'M EXPLAINING THIS RIGHT.

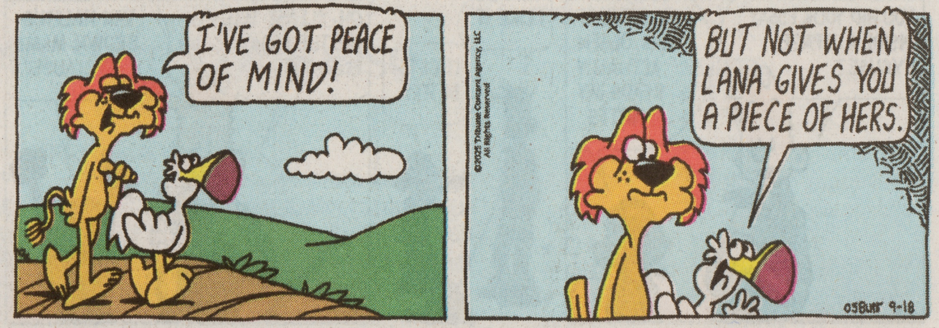
Curtis


I'M DEAD ON MY FEET AND IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT, CURTIS!
YOUR SNORING KEPT ME AWAKE ALL NIGHT! IT'S REALLY BECOMING A PROBLEM!
9-18
SORRY, I CAN'T HELP IT, BARRY. I WISH THERE WAS SOME PERMANENT SOLUTION
TRY SLEEPIN' FACE DOWN INTO YOUR PILLOW
BILLINGSLEY

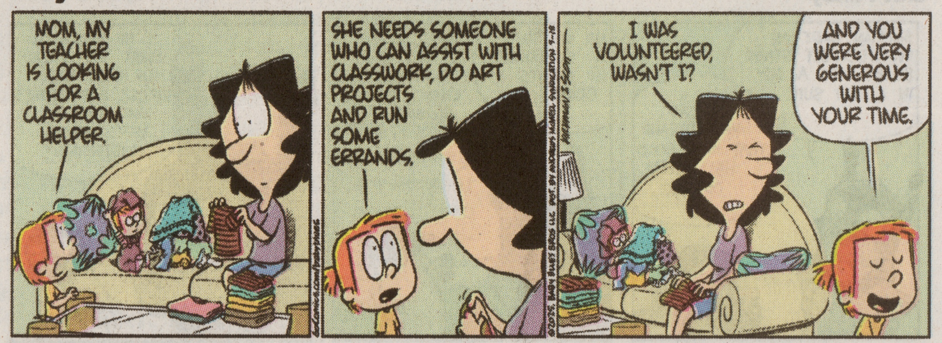
For Better or For Worse


LISTEN, EVERYONE —I'VE DIVIDED OUR CLASS INTO 6 GROUPS!
09-18 www.fborfw.com
EACH GROUP HAS 4 PEOPLE IN IT, AND EACH GROUP IS REPRESENTED BY A DIFFERENT COLOR.
WHAT GROUP ARE YOU IN?
BLUE GROUP!
ME TOO!
© 2025 Lynn Johnston Productions Inc. / Dist. By Andrews McMeel Syndication
THIS IS COOL, DUNCAN. -WE'RE BOTH THE SAME COLOR!!
LYNN

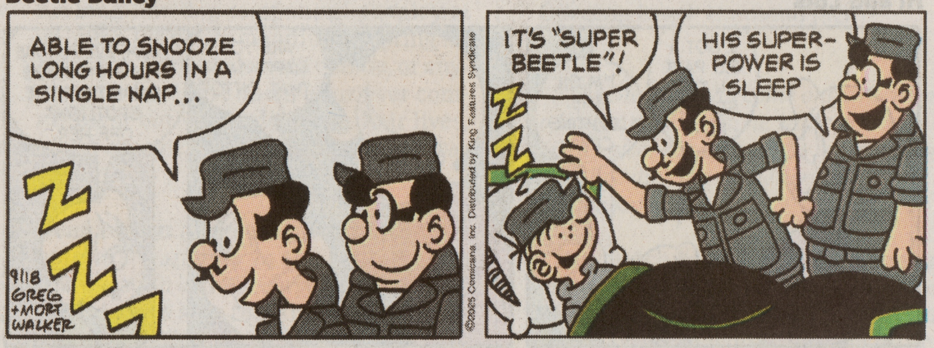
Animal Crackers


I'VE GOT PEACE OF MIND!
©2025 Tribune Content Agency, LLC All Rights Reserved
BUT NOT WHEN LANA GIVES YOU A PIECE OF HERS.
OSBURT 9-18

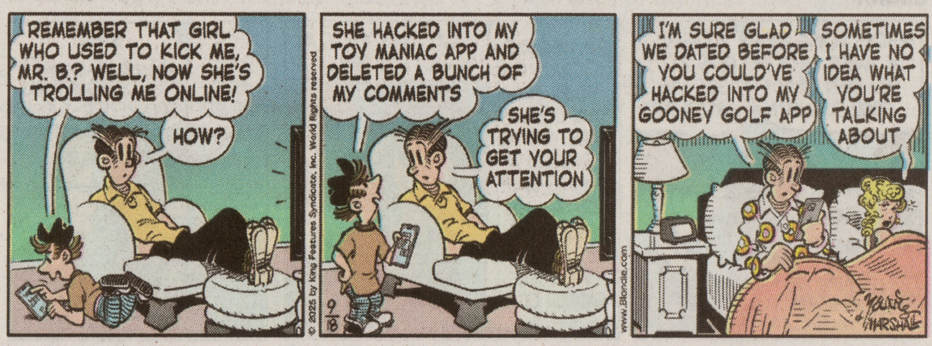
Baby Blues


MOM, MY TEACHER IS LOOKING FOR A CLASSROOM HELPER.
SHE NEEDS SOMEONE WHO CAN ASSIST WITH CLASSWORK, DO ART PROJECTS AND RUN SOME ERRANDS.
I WAS VOLUNTEERED, WASN'T I?
AND YOU WERE VERY GENEROUS WITH YOUR TIME.

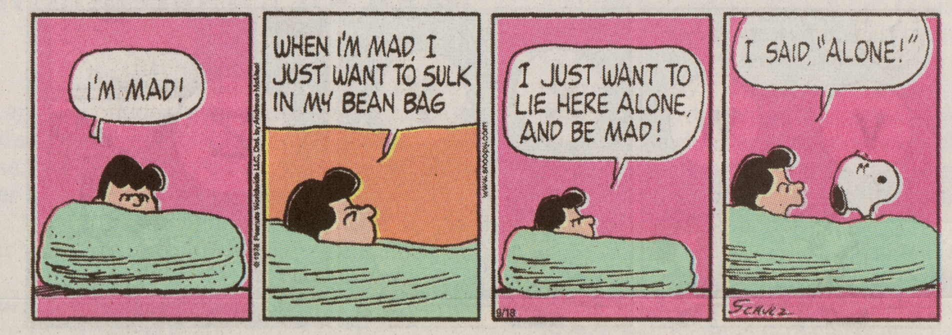
Beetle Bailey


ABLE TO SNOOZE LONG HOURS IN A SINGLE NAP...
9.18 GREG + MORT WALKER
©2025 Comicana, Inc. Distributed by King Features Syndicate
IT'S "SUPER BEETLE"!
HIS SUPER-POWER IS SLEEP

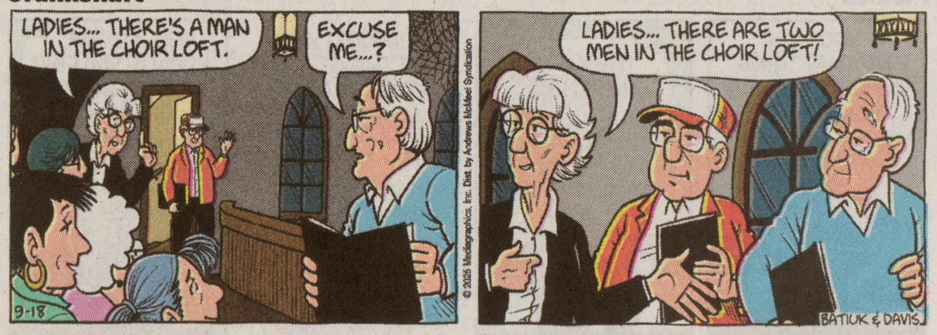
Blondie


REMEMBER THAT GIRL WHO USED TO KICK ME, MR. B.? WELL, NOW SHE'S TROLLING ME ONLINE!
HOW?
© 2025 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World Rights reserved
SHE HACKED INTO MY TOY MANIAC APP AND DELETED A BUNCH OF MY COMMENTS
SHE'S TRYING TO GET YOUR ATTENTION
9 18
www.Blondie.com
I'M SURE GLAD WE DATED BEFORE YOU COULD'VE HACKED INTO MY GOONEY GOLF APP
SOMETIMES I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT

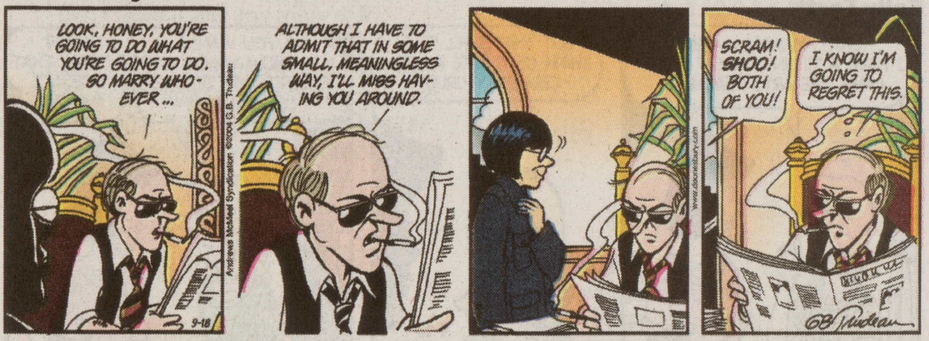
Classic Peanuts


I'M MAD!
WHEN I'M MAD, I JUST WANT TO SULK IN MY BEAN BAG
www.snoopy.com
I JUST WANT TO LIE HERE ALONE, AND BE MAD!
9/18
I SAID, "ALONE!"
SCHULZ

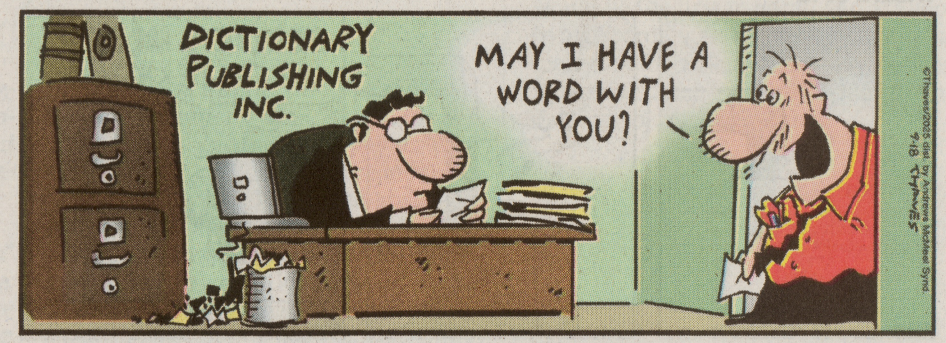
Crankshaft


LADIES... THERE'S A MAN IN THE CHOIR LOFT.
EXCUSE ME...?
9-18
© 2025 Mediagraphics, Inc. Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication
LADIES... THERE ARE TWO MEN IN THE CHOIR LOFT!
BATIUK & DAVIS

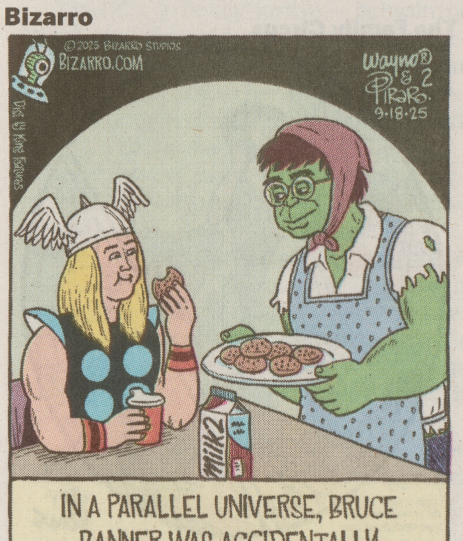
Doonesbury


LOOK, HONEY, YOU'RE GOING TO DO WHAT YOU'RE GOING TO DO. SO MARRY WHO-EVER...
9-18
Andrews McMeel Syndication ©2004 G.B. Trudeau
ALTHOUGH I HAVE TO ADMIT THAT IN SOME SMALL, MEANINGLESS WAY, I'LL MISS HAVING YOU AROUND.
www.doonesbury.com
SCRAM! SHOO! BOTH OF YOU!
I KNOW I'M GOING TO REGRET THIS.
GB Trudeau

Frank & Ernest

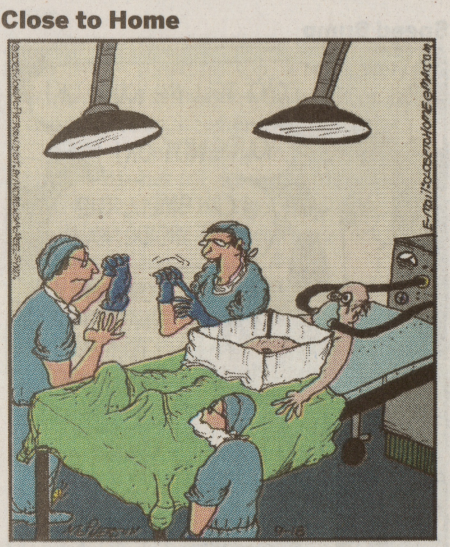

DICTIONARY PUBLISHING INC.
MAY I HAVE A WORD WITH YOU?
©Thaves/2025 dist. by Andrews McMeel Synd.
9-18 Thaves

Bizarro


©2025 Bizarro Studios
BIZARRO.COM
Dist. by King Features
Wayno® & 2 Piraro. 9-18-25
MILK

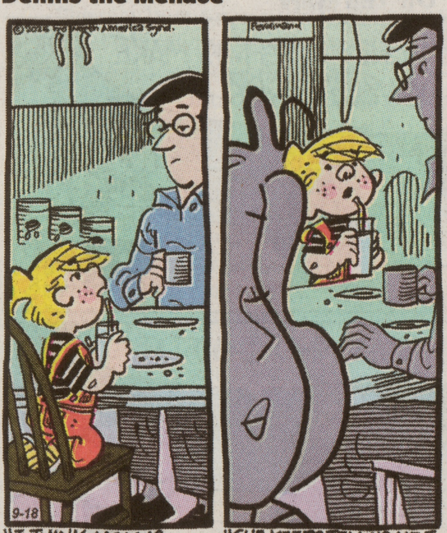
IN A PARALLEL UNIVERSE, BRUCE BANNER WAS ACCIDENTALLY EXPOSED TO GRANDMA RAYS.

Close to Home



"OK, Frank, pay up! I did the entire surgery left-handed while hopping on one foot and singing 'Puff the Magic Dragon.'"

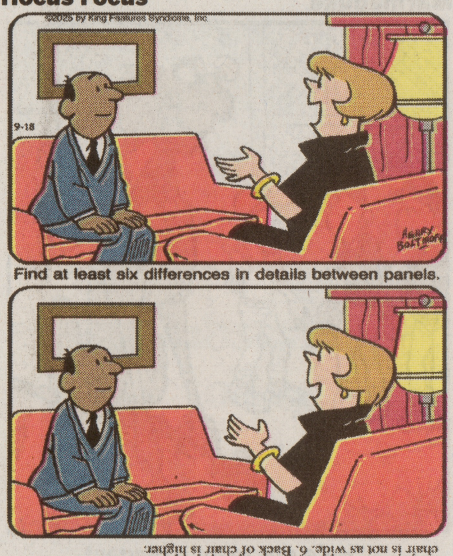
Dennis the Menace


©2025 North America Synd.
Ferdinand
9-18

"I THINK MOM IS OVERWORKED."

"SHE KEEPS TELLING ME I NEED TO START CLEANING UP AFTER MYSELF."

Hocus Focus

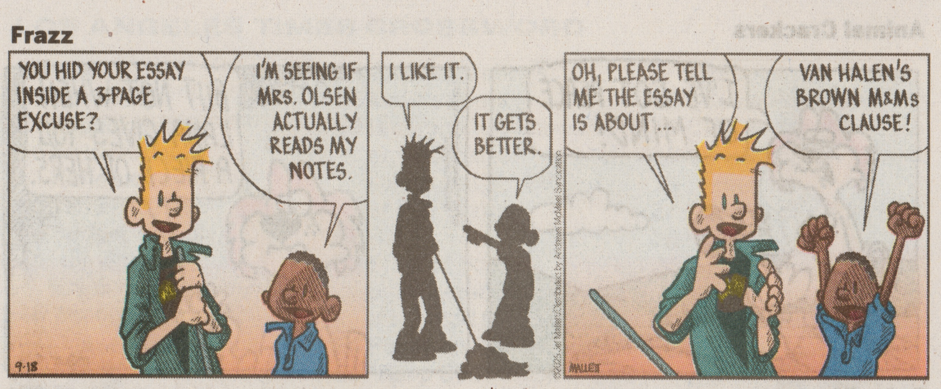

©2025 by King Features Syndicate, Inc.
9-18
HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

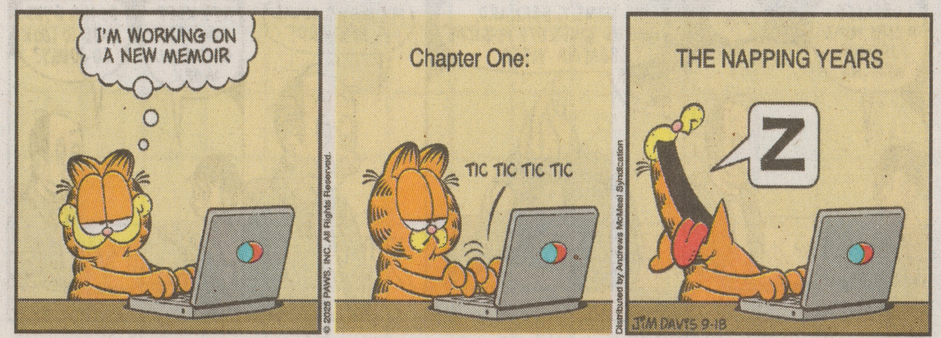
Differences: 1. Hand is moved. 2. Lampshade is different. 3. Woman's hair is longer. 4. Mouth is not open as wide. 5. Arm of chair is not as wide. 6. Back of chair is higher.

COMICS

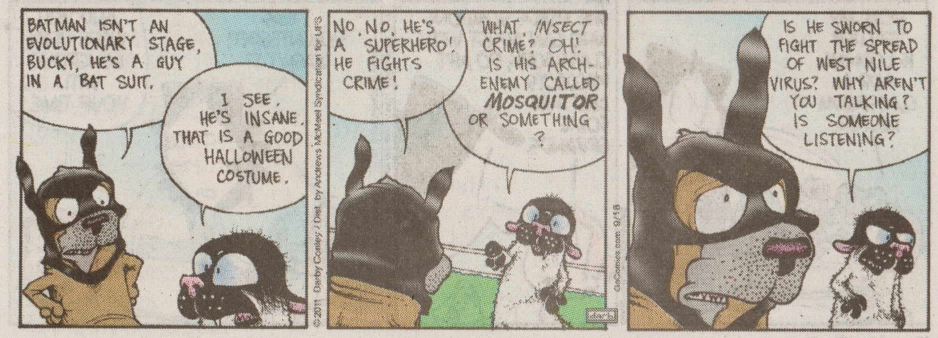
Frazz


YOU HID YOUR ESSAY INSIDE A 3-PAGE EXCUSE?
I'M SEEING IF MRS. OLSEN ACTUALLY READS MY NOTES.
I LIKE IT.
IT GETS BETTER.
OH, PLEASE TELL ME THE ESSAY IS ABOUT...
VAN HALEN'S BROWN M&Ms CLAUSE!
9-18
MALLETT

Garfield


I'M WORKING ON A NEW MEMOIR
Chapter One:
TIC TIC TIC TIC
THE NAPPING YEARS
Z
© 2025 PAWS, INC. All Rights Reserved.
Distributed by Andrews McMeel Syndication
JIM DAVIS 9-18

Get Fuzzy


BATMAN ISN'T AN EVOLUTIONARY STAGE, BUCKY, HE'S A GUY IN A BAT SUIT.
I SEE. HE'S INSANE. THAT IS A GOOD HALLOWEEN COSTUME.
NO, NO, HE'S A SUPERHERO! HE FIGHTS CRIME!
WHAT, INSECT CRIME? OH! IS HIS ARCH-ENEMY CALLED MOSQUITOR OR SOMETHING?
IS HE SWORN TO FIGHT THE SPREAD OF WEST NILE VIRUS? WHY AREN'T YOU TALKING? IS SOMEONE LISTENING?
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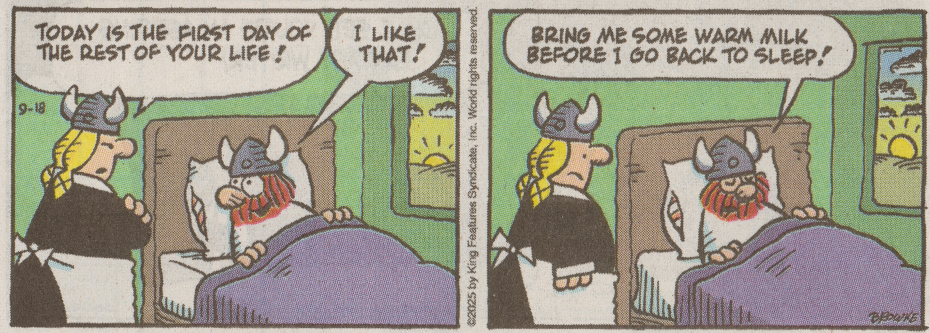
GoComics.com 9/18

Hagar the Horrible


TODAY IS THE FIRST DAY OF THE REST OF YOUR LIFE!
I LIKE THAT!
BRING ME SOME WARM MILK BEFORE I GO BACK TO SLEEP!
9-18
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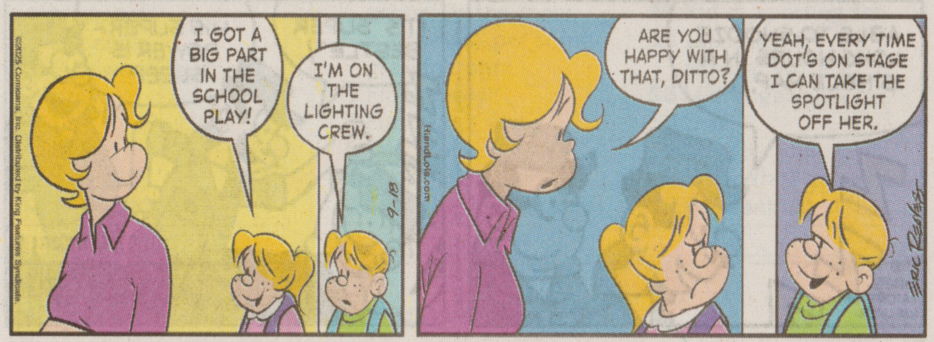
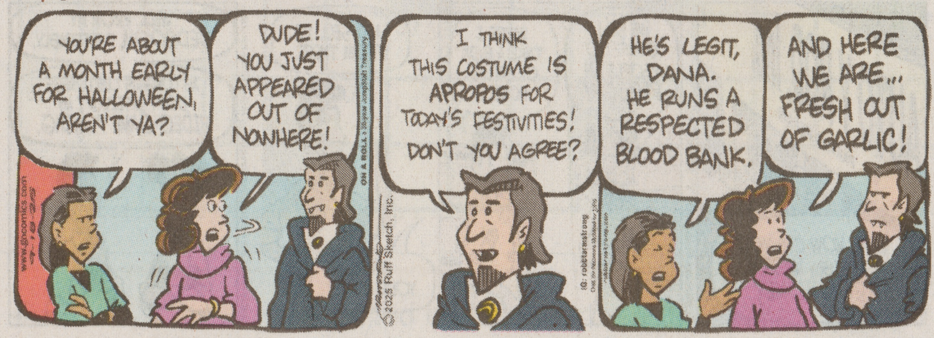
BROWNE

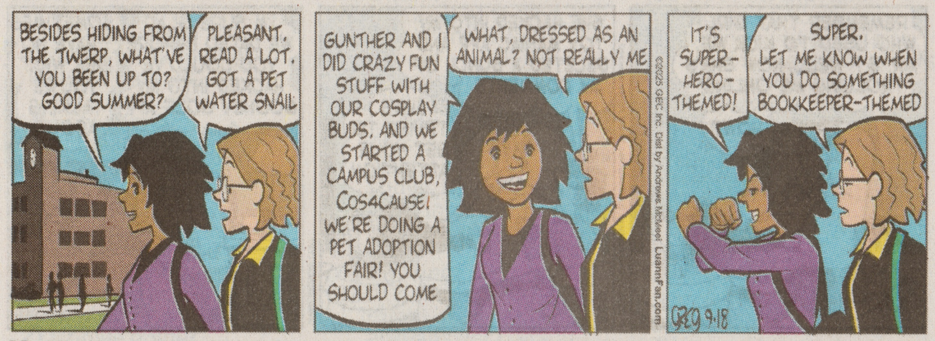
Hi and Lois


I GOT A BIG PART IN THE SCHOOL PLAY!
I'M ON THE LIGHTING CREW.
ARE YOU HAPPY WITH THAT, DITTO?
YEAH, EVERY TIME DOT'S ON STAGE I CAN TAKE THE SPOTLIGHT OFF HER.
9-18
HiandLois.com
ERIC REAVES

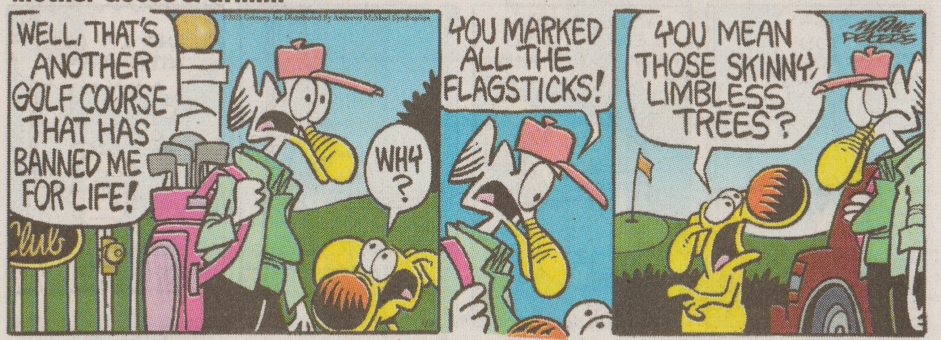
JumpStart


YOU'RE ABOUT A MONTH EARLY FOR HALLOWEEN, AREN'T YA?
DUDE! YOU JUST APPEARED OUT OF NOWHERE!
I THINK THIS COSTUME IS APROPOS FOR TODAY'S FESTIVITIES! DON'T YOU AGREE?
HE'S LEGIT, DANA. HE RUNS A RESPECTED BLOOD BANK.
AND HERE WE ARE... FRESH OUT OF GARLIC!
©2025 Ruff Sketch, Inc.

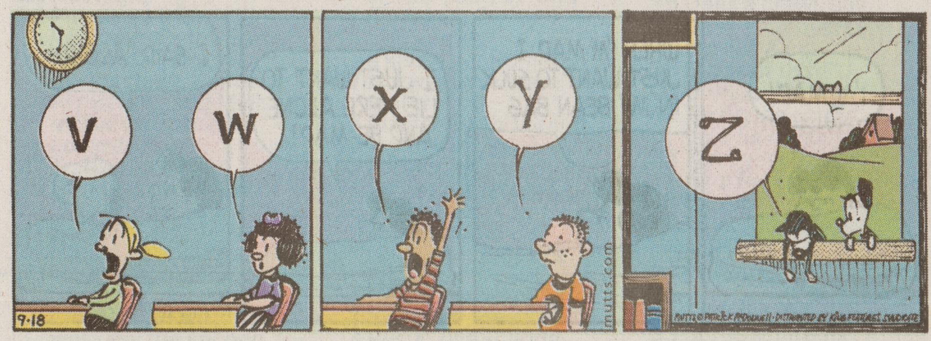
Luann


BESIDES HIDING FROM THE TWERP, WHAT'VE YOU BEEN UP TO? GOOD SUMMER?
PLEASANT. READ A LOT. GOT A PET WATER SNAIL
GUNTHER AND I DID CRAZY FUN STUFF WITH OUR COSPLAY BUDS. AND WE STARTED A CAMPUS CLUB, COS4CAUSE! WE'RE DOING A PET ADOPTION FAIR! YOU SHOULD COME
WHAT, DRESSED AS AN ANIMAL? NOT REALLY ME
IT'S SUPER-HERO-THEMED!
SUPER. LET ME KNOW WHEN YOU DO SOMETHING BOOKKEEPER-THEMED
©2025 GEC Inc. Dist by Andrews McMeel LuannFan.com
GREG 9.18

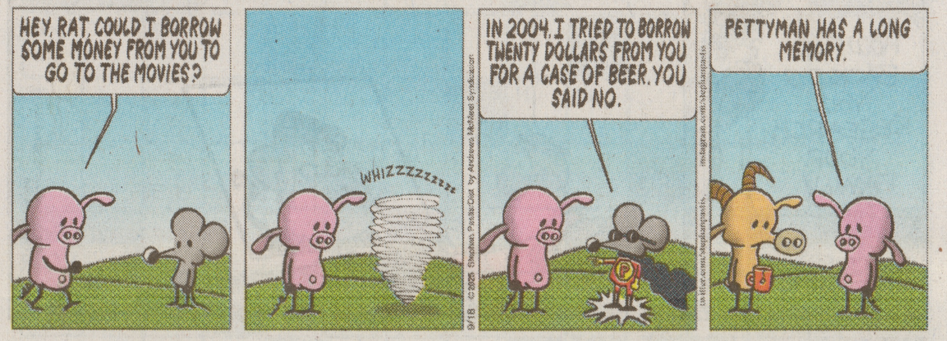
Mother Goose & Grimm


WELL, THAT'S ANOTHER GOLF COURSE THAT HAS BANNED ME FOR LIFE!
WHY?
YOU MARKED ALL THE FLAGSTICKS!
YOU MEAN THOSE SKINNY, LIMBLESS TREES?
Club
MIKE PETERS

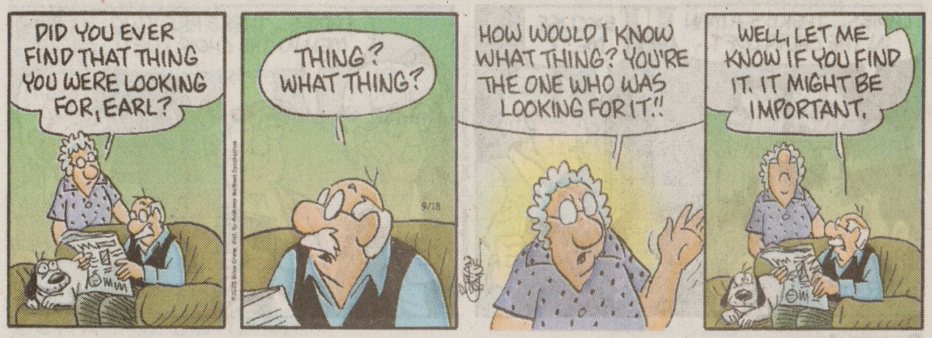
Mutts


V
W
X
Y
Z
9-18
mutts.com

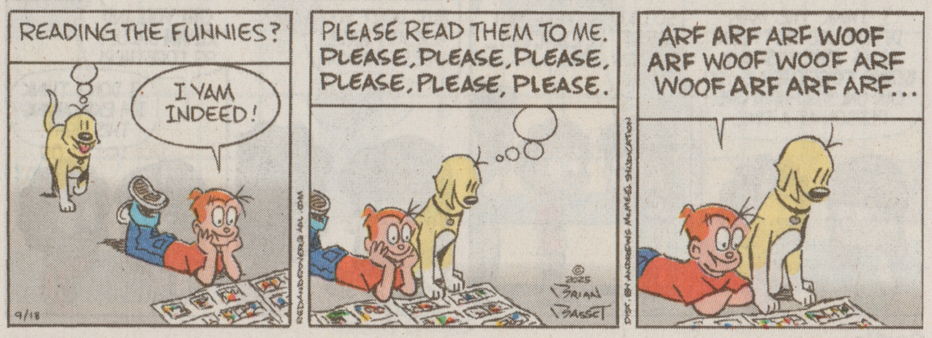
Pearls Before Swine


HEY, RAT, COULD I BORROW SOME MONEY FROM YOU TO GO TO THE MOVIES?
WHIZZZZZZZZZ
IN 2004, I TRIED TO BORROW TWENTY DOLLARS FROM YOU FOR A CASE OF BEER. YOU SAID NO.
PETTYMAN HAS A LONG MEMORY.
9/18 © 2025 Stephan Pastis/Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication

Pickles


DID YOU EVER FIND THAT THING YOU WERE LOOKING FOR, EARL?
THING? WHAT THING?
HOW WOULD I KNOW WHAT THING? YOU'RE THE ONE WHO WAS LOOKING FOR IT!!
WELL, LET ME KNOW IF YOU FIND IT. IT MIGHT BE IMPORTANT.
9/18

Red and Rover


READING THE FUNNIES?
I YAM INDEED!
PLEASE READ THEM TO ME. PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE.
ARF ARF ARF WOOF ARF WOOF WOOF ARF WOOF ARF ARF ARF...
9/18
REDANDROVER@AOL.COM
© 2025 BRIAN BASSET
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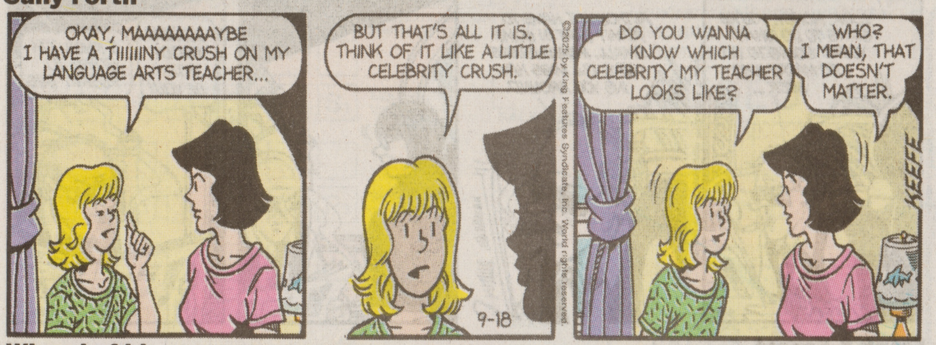
Sally Forth


OKAY, MAAAAAAAAYBE I HAVE A TIIIIIINY CRUSH ON MY LANGUAGE ARTS TEACHER...
BUT THAT'S ALL IT IS. THINK OF IT LIKE A LITTLE CELEBRITY CRUSH.
DO YOU WANNA KNOW WHICH CELEBRITY MY TEACHER LOOKS LIKE?
WHO? I MEAN, THAT DOESN'T MATTER.
9-18
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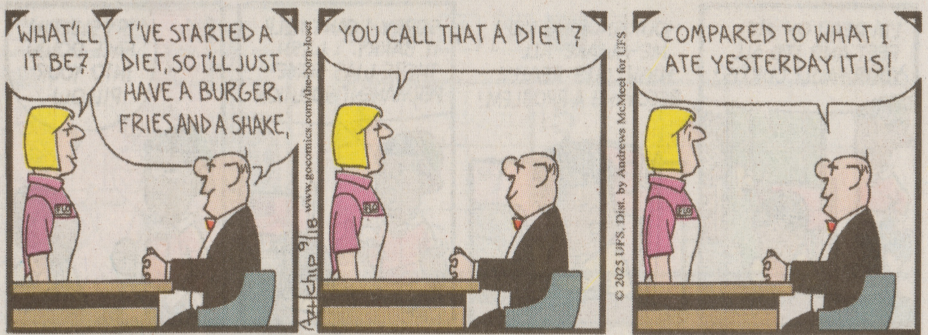
KEEFE

The Born Loser


WHAT'LL IT BE?
I'VE STARTED A DIET, SO I'LL JUST HAVE A BURGER, FRIES AND A SHAKE.
YOU CALL THAT A DIET?
COMPARED TO WHAT I ATE YESTERDAY IT IS!
ArtChip 9/18
www.gocomics.com/the-born-loser
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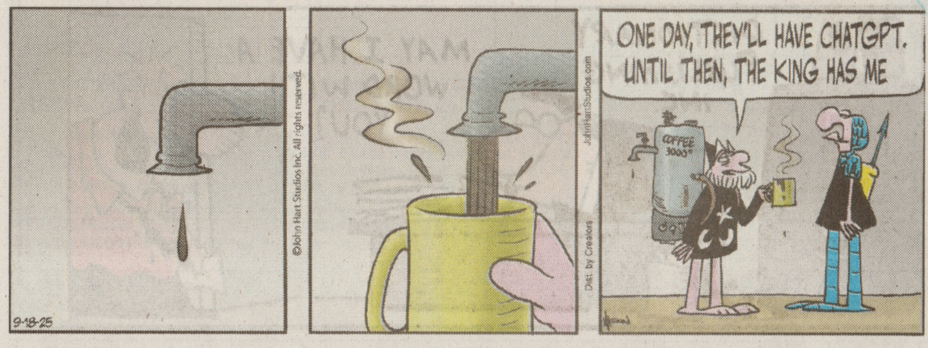
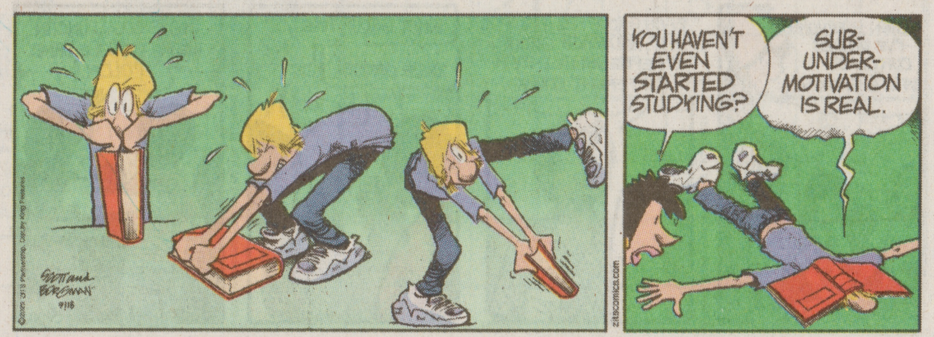
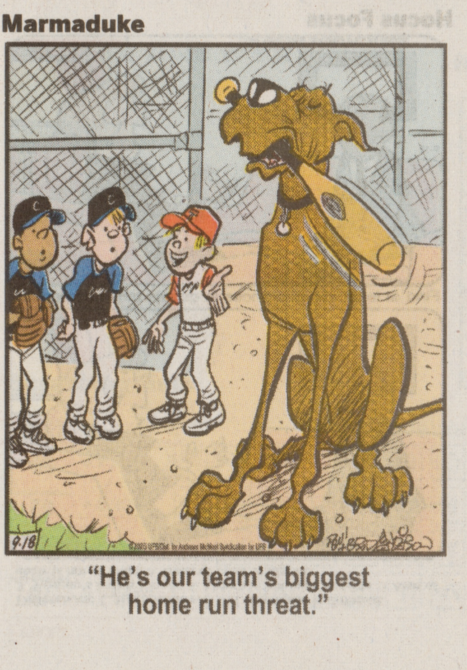
Wizard of Id


ONE DAY, THEY'LL HAVE CHATGPT. UNTIL THEN, THE KING HAS ME
COFFEE 3000
9-18-25
©John Hart Studios Inc. All rights reserved.
JohnHartStudios.com
Dist. by Creators

Zits

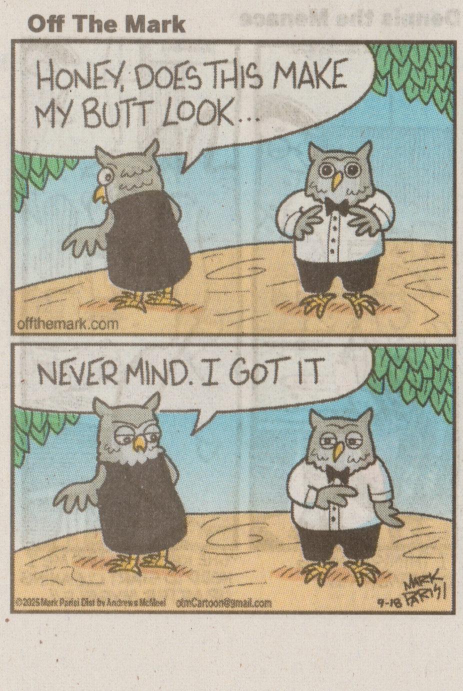

YOU HAVEN'T EVEN STARTED STUDYING?
SUB-UNDER-MOTIVATION IS REAL.
SCOTT and BORGMAN 9/18
zitscomics.com

Marmaduke

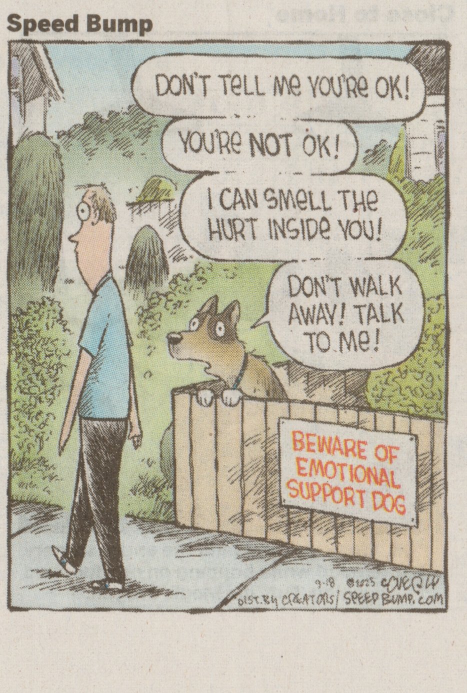


"He's our team's biggest home run threat."

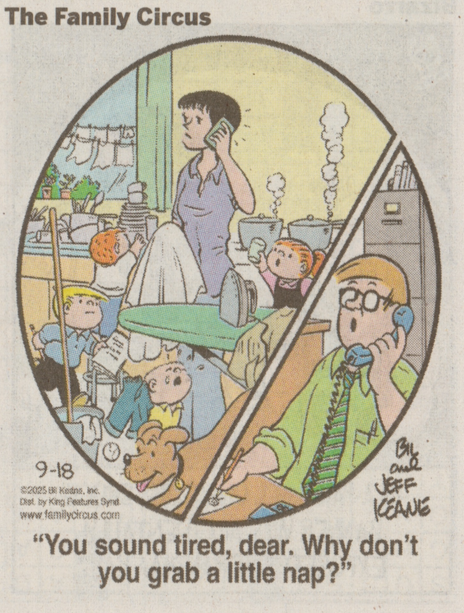
Off The Mark


HONEY, DOES THIS MAKE MY BUTT LOOK...
offthemark.com
NEVER MIND. I GOT IT
©2025 Mark Parisi Dist by Andrews McMeel otmCartoon@gmail.com
9-18
MARK PARISI

Speed Bump


DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE OK!
YOU'RE NOT OK!
I CAN SMELL THE HURT INSIDE YOU!
DON'T WALK AWAY! TALK TO ME!
BEWARE OF EMOTIONAL SUPPORT DOG
9-18 ©2025 COVERLY
DIST. BY CREATORS / SPEEDBUMP.COM

The Family Circus


9-18
©2025 Bil Keane, Inc.
Dist. by King Features Synd.
www.familycircus.com
BIL and JEFF KEANE

"You sound tired, dear. Why don't you grab a little nap?"

11% REBATE ON EVERYTHING!*

* "Price After Rebate" is the Price or Sale Price, minus the savings you can receive from an 11% Mail-in Rebate* in the form of an in-store merchandise credit check. The 11% Rebate* is not a point-of-sale discount on the advertised items. See page 11 for details.

SEPTEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
ENDS 28	29	30	1	2	3	4

Prices Good Now Thru 9/28

Regular Pumpkin

- Great for carving 262-6102

Size varies.

SALE PRICE	4.48
11% REBATE*	0.49
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	3.99 each

LED Halloween Plush Gnome

- Assorted styles and sizes 280-4857-4859

Requires three "AAA" batteries (sold separately).

SALE PRICE	8.98
11% REBATE*	0.99
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	7.99 each

34" Color-Changing LED Halloween Burst

- Stake, stand, or hang to add spooky ambiance to any space 280-5337, 5338, 5340

SALE PRICE	22.46
11% REBATE*	2.47
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	19.99 each

2 x 4 x 8' Pressure Treated Lumber

- Treated for ground contact use 111-0818

Nominal size.

SALE PRICE	5.05
11% REBATE*	0.56
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	4.49 each

AC2
PERFECT FOR OUTDOOR PROJECTS!

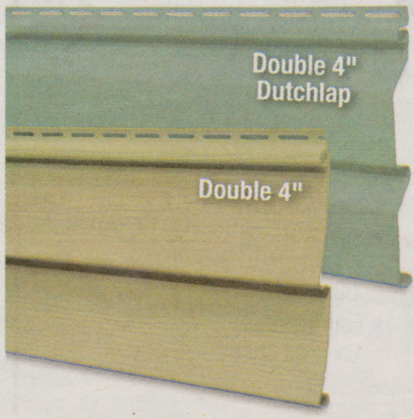
CREATE A BORDER TO DEFINE YOUR LANDSCAPING!

Interloc Edger

179-2480-2495

Nominal size concrete.

SALE PRICE	1.11
11% REBATE*	0.12
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	99¢ each


Double 4" Dutchlap
Double 4"

Cedar Creek™ Vinyl Siding

- Durable, low-maintenance, and comes in 16 colors
- Each .040" x 8" x 12'6" piece covers approximately 8.33 sq. ft. 146-1211-9685

Special order at some locations. Visit MENARDS.COM® for availability!

OTHER STORES AT	8.98
OUR SALE PRICE	5.61
11% REBATE*	0.62
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	4.99 each

FOR USE WITH ALL TYPES OF PAINT!
PAINTER'S COLLECTION
3"
PAINTER'S
2"

All-Purpose Paint Brush

- 3" trim or 2" angle 561-0165, 0167

SALE PRICE	2.24
11% REBATE*	0.25
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	1.99 each

MENARDS PREMIUM
FALL LAWN FOOD
COVERS UP TO 5,000 SQ. FT.!

Fall Lawn Food with Weed Control

- Prepares lawn for winter dormancy and kills over 200 weeds 260-1627

SALE PRICE	14.60
11% REBATE*	1.61
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	12.99 17 lb.

ALL TUSCANY® TOILETS ON SALE, PLUS AN 11% REBATE!*

Tall Round Toilet

- 3" flush valve provides a fast, powerful flush 670-4575

Includes seat, wax ring, and floor bolts.

SALE PRICE	89.88
11% REBATE*	9.89
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	79.99 each

EZ Plank® Laminate Flooring

- A quick and easy way to enhance any décor 740-7133

SALE PRICE	0.78
11% REBATE*	0.09
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	69¢ sq. ft.

Sold in 17.27 sq. ft. cartons

Premium Hard Wood Pellets
NET WT. 40 LBS. (18.1 KG)

Premium Hard Wood Pellets

- Consistent, predictable, and clean burning 640-8282

Brand may vary.

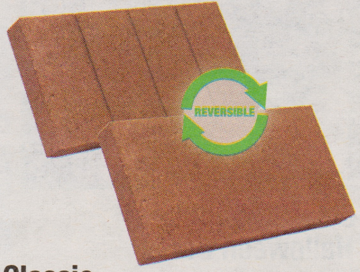
SALE PRICE	5.49
11% REBATE*	0.60
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	4.89 40 lb.

MENARDS®

BEAUTIFY YOUR BACKYARD WITH LANDSCAPING BLOCK!

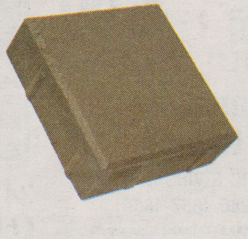
PAVER & PATIO BLOCKS

MADE IN U.S.A.



Classic
- 1-5/8"T x 7-5/8"W x 15-1/4"D
- Two colors 179-1101, 1127

SALE PRICE 1.40
11% REBATE* 0.15
PRICE AFTER REBATE* 1.25 each

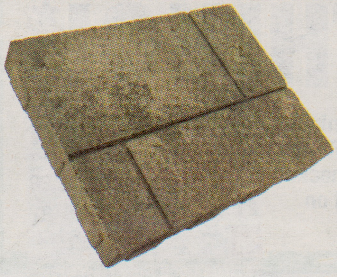


Holland XL
- 2-3/8"T x 7-7/8" square
- Four colors 179-3140-3143

SALE PRICE 1.67
11% REBATE* 0.18
PRICE AFTER REBATE* 1.49 each

Flagstone
- 2-1/2"T x 13-5/8"W x 11"D
- Three colors 179-1354-1358

SALE PRICE 2.46
11% REBATE* 0.27
PRICE AFTER REBATE* 2.19 each



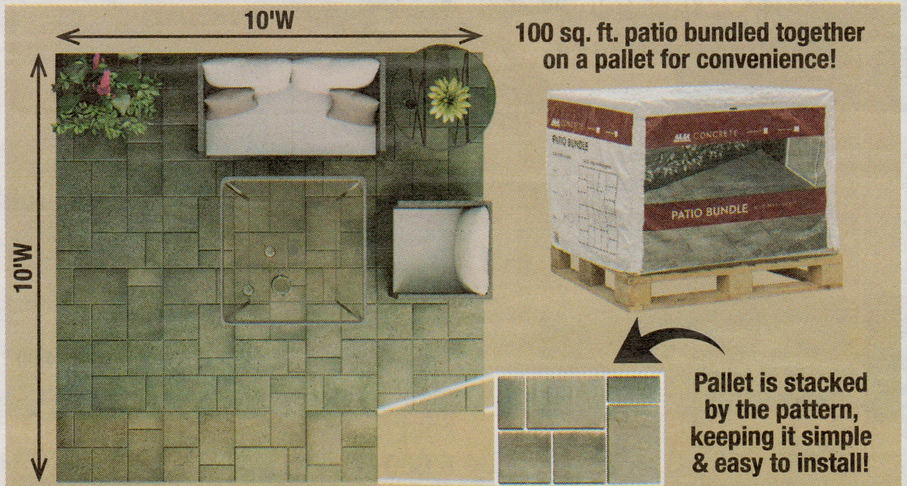
EZ Walk
- 2"T x 12-1/4"W x 16-1/4"D
- Two colors 179-1152, 1153

SALE PRICE 4.48
11% REBATE* 0.49
PRICE AFTER REBATE* 3.99 each

Wetcast Flagstone
- Four unique shapes
179-4137

Each stone sold separately.

SALE PRICE 7.85
11% REBATE* 0.86
PRICE AFTER REBATE* 6.99 each



100 sq. ft. patio bundled together on a pallet for convenience!

Pallet is stacked by the pattern, keeping it simple & easy to install!

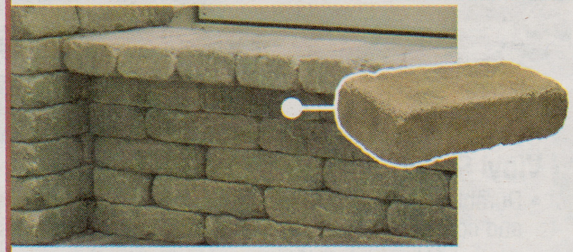
No cutting required!

10 x 10 Patio Bundle MADE IN U.S.A.
- Two colors
179-2894, 2895

SALE PRICE 393.25
11% REBATE* 43.26
PRICE AFTER REBATE* 349.99 bundle

RETAINING WALL BLOCKS

MADE IN U.S.A.



Tumbled Belgian
- 3-1/2"H x 14"W x 7"D
- Four colors
179-3640-3653

SALE PRICE 3.58
11% REBATE* 0.39
PRICE AFTER REBATE* 3.19 each

Lakewood
- 5-1/2"H x 11-1/2"W x 8"D
- Four colors
179-3860-3863

SALE PRICE 3.25
11% REBATE* 0.36
PRICE AFTER REBATE* 2.89 each

Lakewood XL
- 5-1/2"H x 18"W x 8"D
- Four colors
179-3870-3873

SALE PRICE 4.82
11% REBATE* 0.53
PRICE AFTER REBATE* 4.29 each

Special order at some locations; additional packaging/handling charges may be required. Visit MENARDS.COM® for availability. All landscape blocks are nominal size concrete.

Take advantage today!

Find out if you're pre-approved without affecting your credit score – only with the BIG Card®

0% APR†† 12 MONTH EQUAL PAY PLAN

on Menards® purchases over $599

††After 12 months, standard variable APR of 29.24% applies thereafter. See page 5 for full terms and conditions.

MENARDS®
BIG
CARD®

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"There are some experiences in life they haven't invented the right words for." — Lisa Kleypas

GET AN 11% REBATE* ON YOUR WINDOW PROJECT!

ALL PERFORMAX™ WINDOWS COME WITH THESE GREAT FEATURES!

- Limited lifetime warranty
- Premium 3-1/4" thick steel reinforced frame
- Maintenance-Free vinyl frame
- Aluminum-Reinforced sash
- Argon gas filled to prevent condensation
- Energy-Efficient Low-E glass

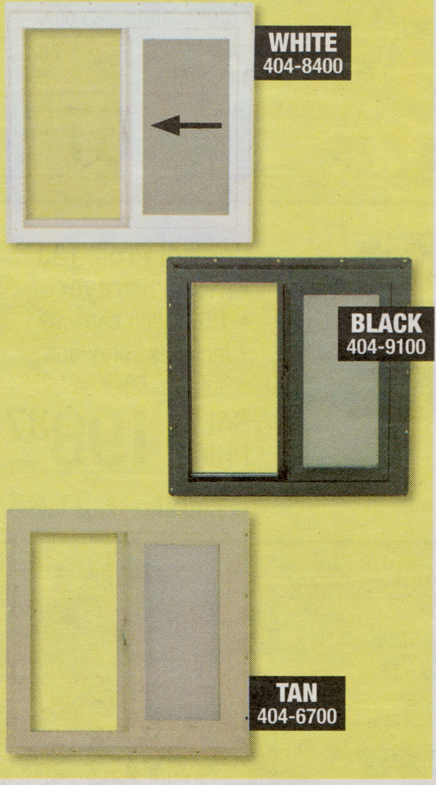
SLIDING

12 SIZES AVAILABLE!

24"W x 24"H

WHITE STARTING AT **97.74**
11% REBATE* **10.75**

PRICE AFTER REBATE* **86.99** each


WHITE
404-8400
BLACK
404-9100
TAN
404-6700

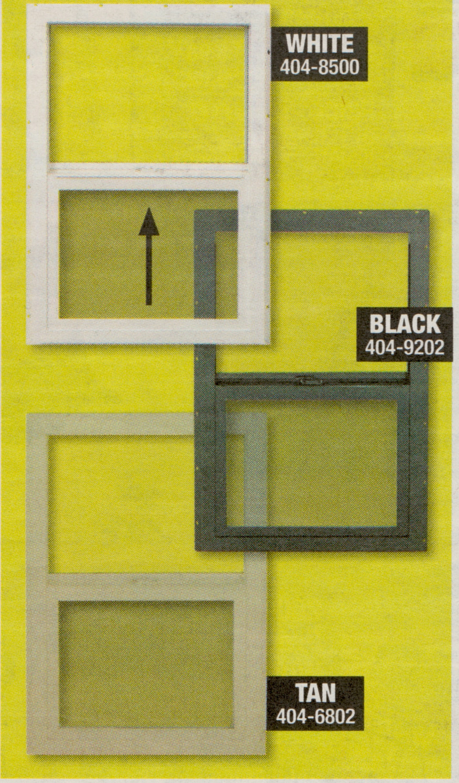
SINGLE HUNG

15 SIZES AVAILABLE!

24"W x 36"H

WHITE STARTING AT **117.97**
11% REBATE* **12.98**

PRICE AFTER REBATE* **104.99** each


WHITE
404-8500
BLACK
404-9202
TAN
404-6802

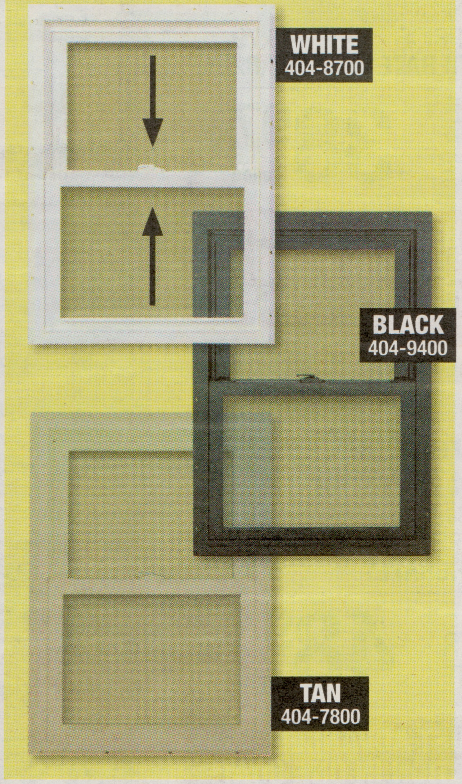
DOUBLE HUNG

15 SIZES AVAILABLE!

24"W x 36"H

WHITE STARTING AT **176.39**
11% REBATE* **19.40**

PRICE AFTER REBATE* **156.99** each


WHITE
404-8700
BLACK
404-9400
TAN
404-7800

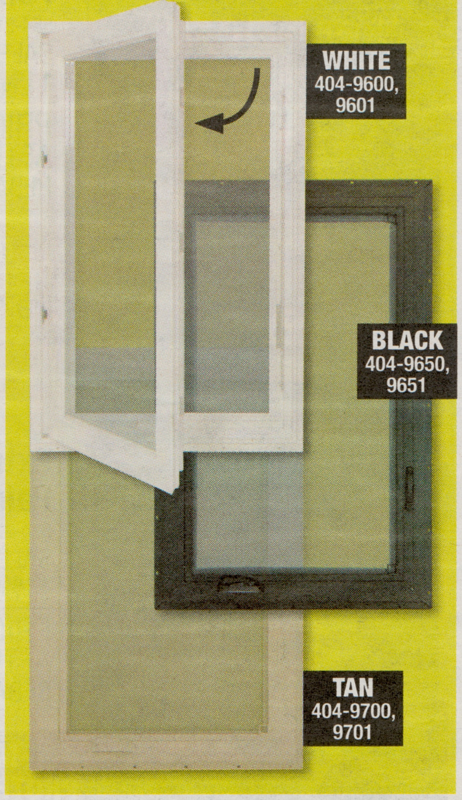
CASEMENT

2 SIZES AVAILABLE!

30"W x 48"H

WHITE STARTING AT **269.65**
11% REBATE* **29.66**

PRICE AFTER REBATE* **239.99** each


WHITE
404-9600,
9601
BLACK
404-9650,
9651
TAN
404-9700,
9701

PERFORMAX™ **Quality Windows at the Best Prices!**
IN STOCK IN OUR FULFILLMENT CENTER!

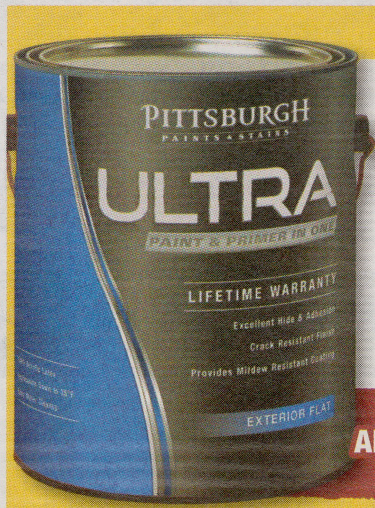
IMMEDIATE FREE SHIPPING TO STORE!

Special order at all locations; additional packaging/handling charges required. Visit MENARDS.COM® for availability! Windows priced include nailing flange. Nominal size.

*** "Price After Rebate" is the Price or Sale Price, minus the savings you can receive from an 11% Mail-in Rebate* in the form of an in-store merchandise credit check. The 11% Rebate* is not a point-of-sale discount on the advertised items. See page 11 for details.**

"Curiosity is, in great and generous minds, the first passion and the last." — Samuel Johnson

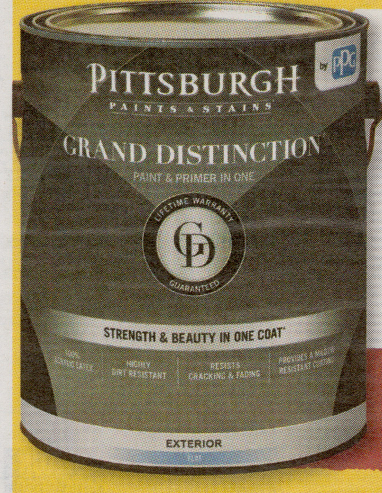
BOOST YOUR CURB APPEAL WITH THESE COLOR TRENDS!


PITTSBURGH
PAINTS & STAINS
ULTRA
PAINT & PRIMER IN ONE
LIFETIME WARRANTY
EXTERIOR FLAT

Exterior Flat Paint & Primer
554-2007-2010

SALE PRICE	30.89
11% REBATE*	3.40
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	27.49 gallon

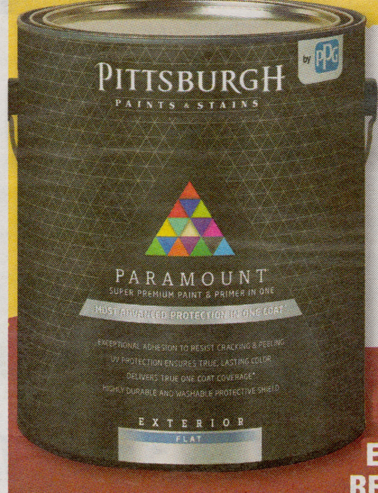
DELIVERS SOLID ALL-AROUND PERFORMANCE AT A GREAT PRICE!


PITTSBURGH
PAINTS & STAINS
by PPG
GRAND DISTINCTION
PAINT & PRIMER IN ONE
STRENGTH & BEAUTY IN ONE COAT
EXTERIOR
FLAT

Exterior Flat Paint & Primer
554-2106-2108

SALE PRICE	43.79
11% REBATE*	4.82
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	38.97 gallon

DIRT SHEDDING TECHNOLOGY FOR A CLEANER APPEARANCE!


PITTSBURGH
PAINTS & STAINS
by PPG
PARAMOUNT
SUPER PREMIUM PAINT & PRIMER IN ONE
MOST ADVANCED PROTECTION IN ONE COAT
EXTERIOR
FLAT

Exterior Flat Paint & Primer
554-2206-2208

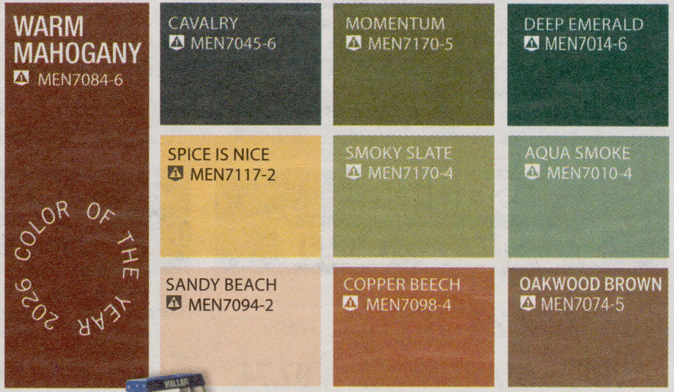
SALE PRICE	54.99
11% REBATE*	6.05
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	48.94 gallon

MOST ADVANCED PROTECTION IN ONE COAT!

EXCEPTIONAL ADHESION TO RESIST CRACKING & PEELING!

PITTSBURGH
PAINTS & STAINS

INTRODUCING THE 2026
TRENDING COLORS



WARM MAHOGANY MEN7084-6
COLOR OF THE YEAR 2026

CAVALRY MEN7045-6	MOMENTUM MEN7170-5	DEEP EMERALD MEN7014-6
SPICE IS NICE MEN7117-2	SMOKY SLATE MEN7170-4	AQUA SMOKE MEN7010-4
SANDY BEACH MEN7094-2	COPPER BEECH MEN7098-4	OAKWOOD BROWN MEN7074-5

Signature Pro
6 pack
ALL PAINTS
LINT FREE

6-Pack Roller Covers MADE IN USA
- 9" x 3/8" lint-free covers

561-8090

SALE PRICE	8.98
11% REBATE*	0.99
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	7.99 6-pack

KELLER
6' Aluminum Step Ladder
- Type I, 250 lb. duty rating 560-0977

SALE PRICE	76.39
11% REBATE*	8.40
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	67.99 each

Control Pro™ 130 Airless Sprayer
- 1.5-Gallon capacity
- Includes spray gun and 25' hose 561-2562

SALE PRICE 198.87 each
PLUS AN 11% REBATE*....21.88

TOOL BOX
PROFESSIONAL
WHITE RAGS

200-Count Professional White Rags MADE IN USA
- 10" x 11" sheets

275-1111

SALE PRICE	8.86
11% REBATE*	0.97
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	7.89 200 ct.

PERFORMAX
4FT x 15FT
ALL-PURPOSE
CANVAS
DROP CLOTH
8oz

Canvas Drop Cloth
- 4' x 15' 561-2246

SALE PRICE	9.99
11% REBATE*	1.10
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	8.89 each

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"You express the truth of your character with the choice of your actions." — Steve Maraboli

COMFORT YOU CAN COUNT ON! PLUS AN 11% REBATE!*

PATRIOT LIGHTING® CEILING FANS FREE REMOTE INCLUDED

Adjustable Color Temperature & RGB!

REVERSIBLE BLADES!

IN/OUT DOOR

42" Aviator
- Matte Black Finish with Frosted Lens
- DC motor for maximum efficiency
- 1,350 lumens 355-3572

Integrated LED.

SALE PRICE 95.49
11% REBATE* 10.50
PRICE AFTER REBATE* 84.99 each

Adjustable Color Temperature

IN/OUT DOOR

52" Rexford
- Matte Black Finish with Frosted Glass
- DC motor for maximum efficiency
- 2,000 lumens 355-0152

Integrated LED.

While Supplies Last!

SALE PRICE 112.35
11% REBATE* 12.36
PRICE AFTER REBATE* 99.99 each

5 Selectable Color Temperatures

IN/OUT DOOR

52" Atlas
- Matte Black and Gold Finish with White Glass
- DC motor for maximum efficiency
- 1,500 lumens 355-3400

Integrated LED.

SALE PRICE 146.06
11% REBATE* 16.07
PRICE AFTER REBATE* 129.99 each

3 Selectable Color Temperatures

52" Covington
- Matte Black Finish with Frosted Glass
- 1,000 lumens 355-0740

Integrated LED.

SALE PRICE 157.29
11% REBATE* 17.30
PRICE AFTER REBATE* 139.99 each

IN/OUT DOOR

56" Gannon
- Black Finish
- DC motor for maximum efficiency
- Can be installed on standard or sloped ceilings 355-0717

Bulb not required.

SALE PRICE 185.38
11% REBATE* 20.39
PRICE AFTER REBATE* 164.99 each

FREE REMOTE INCLUDED

Socket Fanlight
- Four fan speeds
- Multiple brightness and light settings
- 2,000 lumens

353-6954

Integrated LED. Screws into standard socket (sold separately).

SALE PRICE 16.84
11% REBATE* 1.85
PRICE AFTER REBATE* 14.99 each

LARGEST IN-STOCK SELECTION OF HUNTER® CEILING FANS!

REVERSIBLE BLADES!

44" Quiet Breeze
- Snow White Finish with Frosted Glass or New Bronze Finish with Amber Scavo Glass
- 1,800 lumens

355-0615, 0617

SALE PRICE 84.26
11% REBATE* 9.27
PRICE AFTER REBATE* 74.99 each

REVERSIBLE BLADES!

52" Henley II
- New Bronze Finish

355-0693

Bulb not required.

SALE PRICE 95.49
11% REBATE* 10.50
PRICE AFTER REBATE* 84.99 each

REVERSIBLE BLADES!

52" Allendale
- Brushed Nickel, Noble Bronze, or Matte Black Finish with Frosted Glass
- 2,249 lumens

355-0611, 0629, 0700

SALE PRICE 123.58
11% REBATE* 13.59
PRICE AFTER REBATE* 109.99 each

REVERSIBLE BLADES!

FREE REMOTE INCLUDED

52" Trior
- Matte White or Matte Black Finish with White Lens
- 400 lumens 355-0153, 0154

SALE PRICE 134.82
11% REBATE* 14.83
PRICE AFTER REBATE* 119.99 each

52" Postman
- Noble Bronze or Matte Silver Finish with Clear Glass
- 1,410 lumens

355-0732, 0746

Includes LED vintage-style bulbs.

SALE PRICE 140.44
11% REBATE* 15.45
PRICE AFTER REBATE* 124.99 each

REVERSIBLE BLADES!

FREE REMOTE INCLUDED

60" Marsac
- Matte Black Finish with Clear Glass
- DC motor for maximum efficiency
- 1,482 lumens 355-1135

SALE PRICE 191.00
11% REBATE* 21.01
PRICE AFTER REBATE* 169.99 each

All ceiling fans include LED bulbs unless otherwise indicated. Integrated LED ceiling fans do not require bulbs.

††Offer valid for a limited time on approved Menards® pretax purchases of $599 or more made on the Menards® BIG Card® issued by Capital One, N.A. Your account must be open and current to be eligible for this offer. For eligible purchases, the purchase amount is divided into 12 equal monthly payments and will be assessed a 0% APR effective for 12 months or until repaid if repaid earlier. This special equal payment term will be added to your normal minimum payment due on non-promotional credit plans. If purchase balance is not paid in full after 12 months, the standard variable purchase APR of 29.24% will apply to your remaining program balance. Variable APR as of 9/15/2025 is 29.24%. 2% rebates are not earned on items purchased using promotional financing. Any advertised monthly payment amount is based on the product price and is rounded to the nearest dollar and does not include taxes, shipping or ancillary charges.

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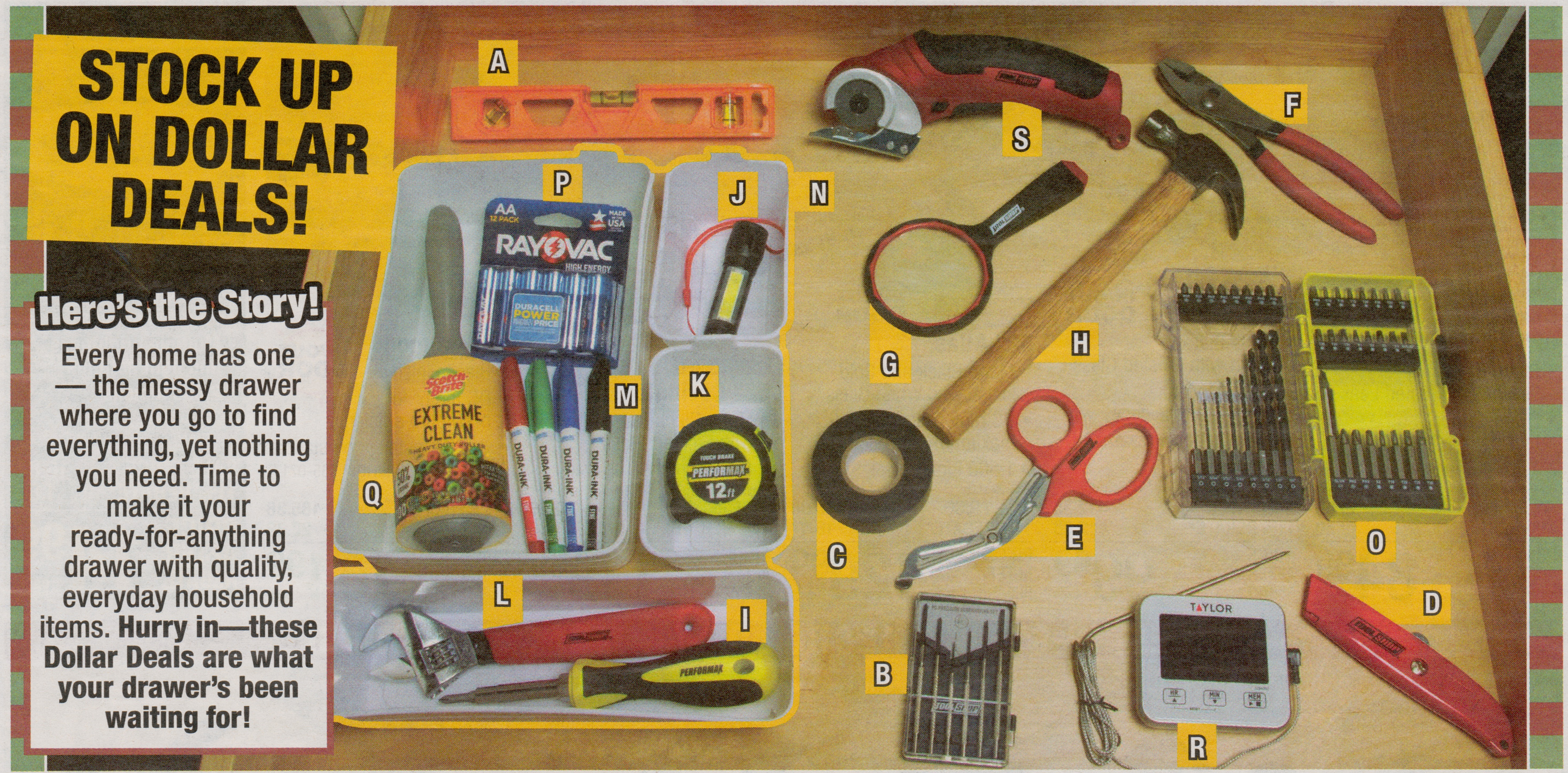
"Life has no remote, so wake up and change it." — Sushil Singh

FOR THE DRAWER THAT HAS EVERYTHING!

STOCK UP ON DOLLAR DEALS!

Here's the Story!

Every home has one — the messy drawer where you go to find everything, yet nothing you need. Time to make it your ready-for-anything drawer with quality, everyday household items. **Hurry in—these Dollar Deals are what your drawer's been waiting for!**



$1 AFTER AN 11% REBATE!*

- **A** **9" Structo-Cast® Torpedo Level** 244-3058
- **B** **6-Piece Precision Screwdriver Set**
  - Swivel caps provide improved fingertip control 237-8803
- **C** **Electrical Tape**
  - 3/4"W x 60'L 364-6003
- **D** **Utility Knife** 243-5422
- **E** **Utility Shears** 243-5343

$2 AFTER AN 11% REBATE!*

- **F** **8" Slip Joint Pliers** 243-3895
- **G** **4X Magnifying Glass** 243-2222
- **H** **7 oz. Claw Hammer** 243-4441
- **I** **6-in-1 Screwdriver** 237-2146
- **J** **LED Rechargeable Flashlight** 370-9113

$3 AFTER AN 11% REBATE!*

- **K** **12' Tape Measure**
  - Touch lock 237-6538
- **L** **8" Adjustable Wrench** 243-7817
- **M** **4-Pack Assorted Color Markers** 244-3239
- **N** **4-Piece Drawer Organizer**
  - Includes one Large, one Medium, and two Small Trays
  - White or Gray 214-3233, 3234

$5 AFTER AN 11% REBATE!*

- **O** **41-Piece Drill & Drive Bit Set** 236-0518
- **P** **12-Pack AA Batteries** 210-7323
- **Q** **100-Sheet Lint Roller**
  - 50% stickier than standard Scotch-Brite® lint rollers 214-0631

$10 AFTER AN 11% REBATE!*

- **R** **Grill Thermometer**
  - Programmable temperature settings from 32°–482°F
  - Stainless steel probe
  - Includes batteries 259-7388

$12 AFTER AN 11% REBATE!*

- **S** **4V Cordless Cutter**
  - Easily cut cardboard and packaging 241-0261

While Supplies Last!

Some items special order or not available at some locations. Visit MENARDS.COM® for availability!

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"Infuse your life with action." — Bradley Whitford

ADD STORAGE & STYLE WITH AN 11% REBATE!*

4 FINISHED EDGES!

14" Pipe Bracket
- Black or Industrial Gray 211-2677, 2678

Shelf and mounting hardware sold separately. Two brackets shown.

YOUR CHOICE

SALE PRICE	6.73
11% REBATE*	0.74
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	5^{99} each

DAKOTA MADE IN U.S.A.

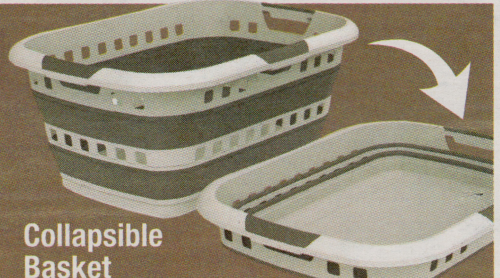
Prefinished Decorative Shelving
- 5/8" x 11-3/4" x 2' 211-2857, 4234, 5721, 5806, 5807, 5877, 5924

LAUNDRY STORAGE SOLUTIONS

HAMPER & LAUNDRY BASKET HYBRID!

2-Bushel Laundry Hamper MADE IN U.S.A.
- White or Alloy Gray
- 16-7/8"W x 18-7/8"H x 21-5/8"D 214-0516, 0518

SALE PRICE	8.98
11% REBATE*	0.99
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	7^{99} each



Collapsible Basket
- Assorted colors
- Collapses to 3-1/4"H
- 24-1/4"W x 10-1/2"H x 17-3/4"D 214-0499

Two shown.

SALE PRICE	12.34
11% REBATE*	1.36
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	10^{98} each

LATCHING STORAGE TOTES

3 ADDITIONAL SIZES ON SALE, PLUS AN 11% REBATE!*

Clear Medium MADE IN U.S.A.
- 6-5/8"W x 5-3/8"H x 11"D 645-2204

SALE PRICE	3.36
11% REBATE*	0.37
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	2^{99} each

2 ADDITIONAL SIZES ON SALE, PLUS AN 11% REBATE!*

20-Gallon Gray MADE IN U.S.A.
- 18-1/4"W x 15-1/2"H x 23-5/8"D 214-1140

SALE PRICE	8.08
11% REBATE*	0.89
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	7^{19} each

4 ADDITIONAL SIZES ON SALE, PLUS AN 11% REBATE!*

76-Quart Clear MADE IN U.S.A.
- 18-3/8"W x 13-1/4"H x 25-3/4"D 214-0238

SALE PRICE	11.22
11% REBATE*	1.23
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	9^{99} each

Collapsible Crate
- Assorted colors
- 8"W x 5"H x 12"D 214-3041

SALE PRICE	2.24
11% REBATE*	0.25
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	1^{99} each

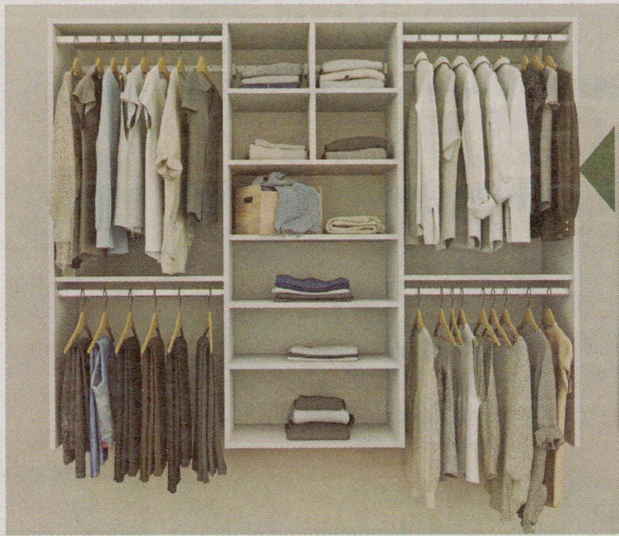
16-Quart Crate MADE IN U.S.A.
- 13"W x 11"H x 13"D 214-0170

SALE PRICE	5.59
11% REBATE*	0.61
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	4^{98} each

6-Gallon Steel Pail with Lid
- 15"W x 14"H 214-0300

SALE PRICE	16.84
11% REBATE*	1.85
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	14^{99} each

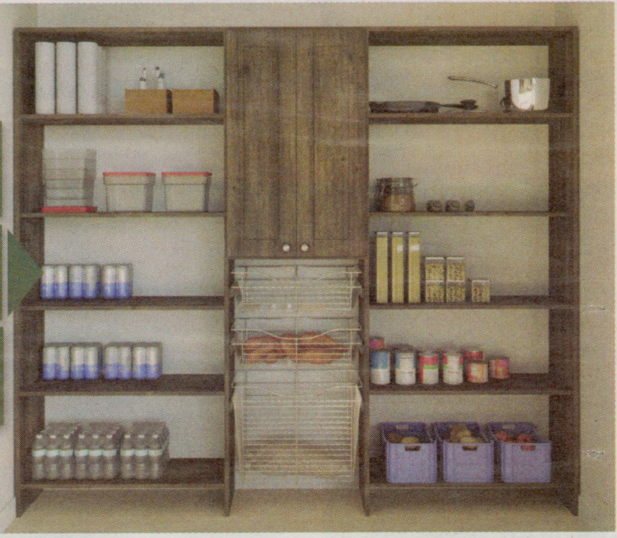
DAKOTA CLOSETS STORAGE SYSTEMS • EASY TO INSTALL • PRE-CUT COMPONENTS



White

Cottage

Charcoal



Wooden Closet System
- 75"W x 61-1/4"H x 14"D 290-5414-5416

SALE PRICE	269.65
11% REBATE*	29.66
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	239^{99} system

Wooden Pantry System
- 99"W x 86-1/2"H x 14-5/8"D 290-0292, 0297, 0298

SALE PRICE	595.49
11% REBATE*	65.50
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	529^{99} system

FREE ESTIMATES FAST! Visit MENARDS.com®/Ucreate to design & buy today!

Some items special order or not available at some locations. Visit MENARDS.COM® for availability! Contents and accessories not included.

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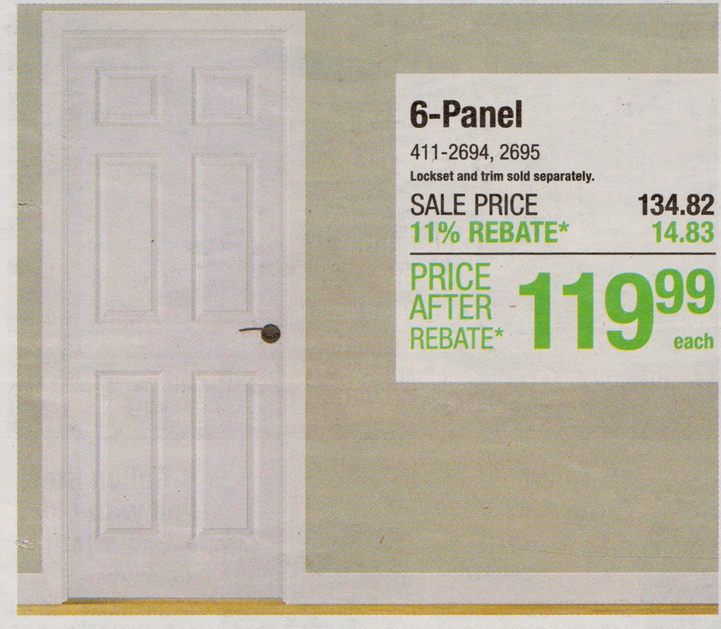
"May you always remember the path that leads back, back to the important places." — Doug Woodward

SAVE TIME & MONEY WITH MASTERCRAFT®

• PREFINISHED BRITE WHITE INTERIOR PREHUNG DOOR & WHITE ENGINEERED WOOD CORE FRAME • 30W x 80H



6-Panel
411-2694, 2695
Lockset and trim sold separately.

SALE PRICE	134.82
11% REBATE*	14.83
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	119.99 each

DESIGN & BUY YOUR DOOR, YOUR WAY®
by MASTERCRAFT®

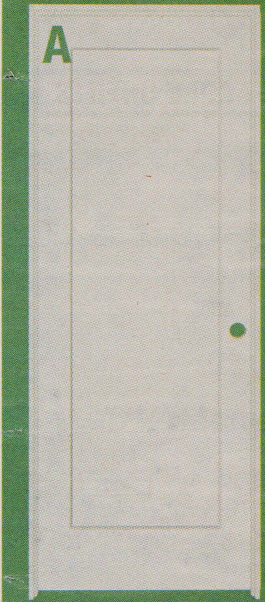
Choose your door style, finish, frame, hinges & configuration!

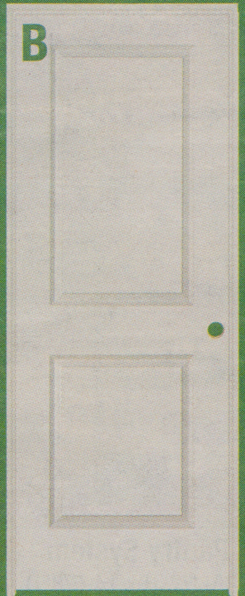
FREE SHIPPING TO STORE!

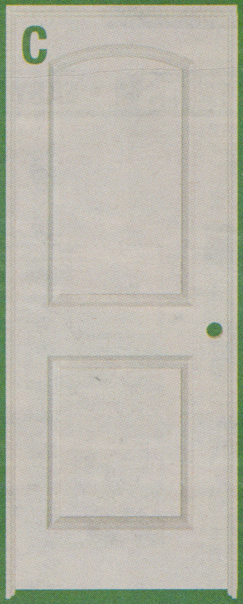
SCAN HERE TO START YOUR DESIGN!

3-Panel Mission
411-0620, 0621
Lockset and trim sold separately.

SALE PRICE	179.76
11% REBATE*	19.77
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	159.99 each







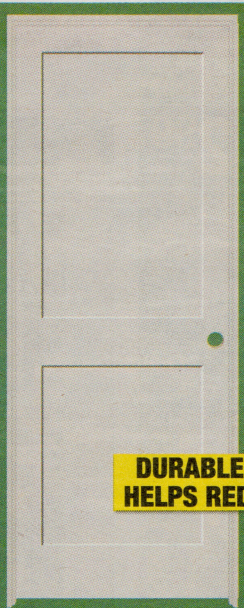
YOUR CHOICE

SALE PRICE	162.91
11% REBATE*	17.92
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	144.99 each

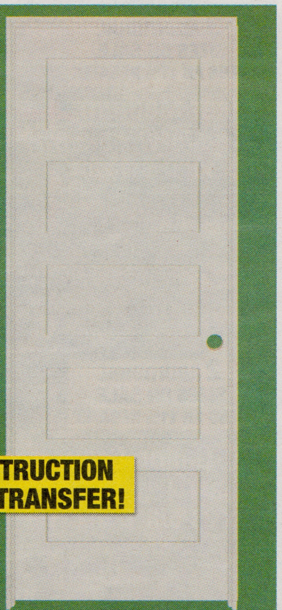
A. 1-Panel
410-1268, 1269

B. 2-Panel Raised
411-3588, 3589

C. 2-Panel Arch
411-2487, 2488



DURABLE, SOLID CONSTRUCTION HELPS REDUCE SOUND TRANSFER!



2-Panel Flat
411-3226, 3227

SALE PRICE	207.85
11% REBATE*	22.86
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	184.99 each

5-Panel Equal
411-2472, 2473

SALE PRICE	230.33
11% REBATE*	25.34
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	204.99 each

ALSO AVAILABLE IN 18, 24, 28, 32 & 36 WIDTHS!

Some sizes special order at some locations. Visit MENARDS.COM® for availability. Nominal size. All prehung doors include door slab, frame, and hinges. Choose from left or right door swing.

* "Price After Rebate" is the Price or Sale Price, minus the savings you can receive from an 11% Mail-in Rebate* in the form of an in-store merchandise credit check. The 11% Rebate* is not a point-of-sale discount on the advertised items. See page 11 for details.

"The stars we are given. The constellations we make." — Rebecca Solnit

SPRINKLE A LITTLE BIT OF ZEST ON YOUR KITCHEN!

Adjustable legs for easy leveling!
Soft close doors & drawers!

WOODEN DOVETAIL DRAWER BOXES AVAILABLE!

Price may vary.

INTERLOCKING DESIGN PROVIDES EXCEPTIONAL STRENGTH!

KLËARVŪE CABINETRY

KLËARVŪE® CABINETRY

Kitchen Cabinets

- Laholm® Style with Black Finish
- Includes island cabinets 492-2522

Price shown is for purchasing the cabinets only.

PRICE	4,494.37
11% REBATE*	494.38
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	3,999.99

ALL CUSTOM LAMINATE COUNTERTOPS ON SALE, PLUS AN 11% REBATE!*

CUSTOMCRAFT COUNTERTOPS
OVER 150 COLORS AVAILABLE!

Shown in River Gold

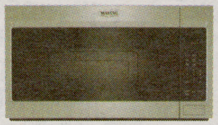
486-0307

Prices are for 25-5/16" cabinet depth, applied backsplash in modern edge. Prices vary by finish.

SALE PRICE STARTING AT	7.63
11% REBATE*	0.84
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	6.79 sq. ft.

FREE ESTIMATES FAST! Visit MENARDS.com®/Ucreate to design & buy cabinets & countertops today!

MAYTAG FINGERPRINT RESISTANT STAINLESS STEEL APPLIANCE SUITE

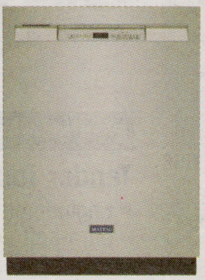


1.7 cu. ft. Over-the-Range Microwave

\#MMMS4230PZ 465-7903

SALE PRICE 248.00 each

PLUS AN 11% REBATE* 27.28



4-Cycle Dishwasher

- PowerBlast® cycle removes stuck-on food #MDB4949SKZ

461-5016

SALE PRICE 598.00 each

PLUS AN 11% REBATE* 65.78

EDGE-TO-EDGE CERAMIC GLASS COOKTOP FOR EASY CLEAN UP!

5.3 cu. ft. Electric Range

- Fight tough oven stains with self-cleaning technology #MFES6030RZ

465-0078

SALE PRICE 828.00 each

PLUS AN 11% REBATE* 91.08

24.7 cu. ft. French Door Refrigerator

- Humidity-Controlled FreshLock™ crispers
- 70-1/8"H x 35-5/8"W x 35-1/4"D #MFI2570FEZ 463-1265

SALE PRICE 1,998.00 each

PLUS AN 11% REBATE* 219.78

Some items special order at some locations. Visit MENARDS.COM® for availability!

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"Showing gratitude is one of the simplest yet most powerful things humans can do for each other." — Randy Pausch

REVITALIZE YOUR SPACE WITH THESE UPDATES!

Window Images CORDLESS WINDOW TREATMENTS • FREE TRIM TO WIDTH IN-STORE!

Nominal size.

2 COLORS
White
Alabaster

15 ADDITIONAL SIZES AVAILABLE!

1" Vinyl Blind
- Room darkening
- 23"W x 48"L

791-7200, 7202

SALE PRICE	11.22
11% REBATE*	1.23
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	9.99 each

3 ADDITIONAL SIZES AVAILABLE!

Roller Shade
- Light filtering
- 37"W x 60"L

790-4183

SALE PRICE	4.48
11% REBATE*	0.49
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	3.99 each

3 COLORS
Gray
Mahogany
Oak

17 ADDITIONAL SIZES AVAILABLE!

2" Faux Wood Blind
- Room darkening
- 24"W x 48"L

791-6202, 6204, 6205

SALE PRICE	27.97
11% REBATE*	3.08
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	24.89 each

3 COLORS
Creamy Tan
White
Gray

11 ADDITIONAL SIZES AVAILABLE!

Cellular Shade
- Light filtering
- 23"W x 48"L

791-3870, 3930, 3950

SALE PRICE	24.71
11% REBATE*	2.72
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	21.99 each

2 COLORS
White Dove
Pewter

11 ADDITIONAL SIZES AVAILABLE!

Cellular Shade
- Blackout
- 23"W x 48"L

791-7980, 8032

SALE PRICE	29.20
11% REBATE*	3.21
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	25.99 each

CURTAINS

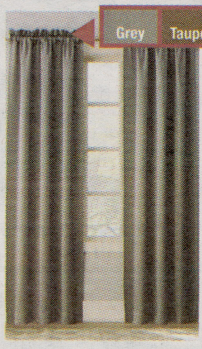
White
Black
Silver Grey
3 COLORS

59"W x 63"L Emily
- Includes one light filtering panel

789-7727, 8365, 8366

Two panels shown.

SALE PRICE	4.48
11% REBATE*	0.49
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	3.99 1-panel

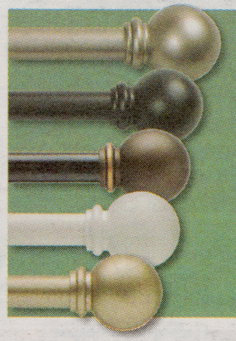


74"W x 63"L Garner
- Includes two room darkening panels

789-5235, 7321, 7324, 7325, 7740

SALE PRICE	13.92
11% REBATE*	1.53
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	12.39 2-panel

Curtain rods sold separately.



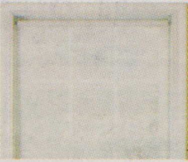
28"–48"W Decorative Curtain Rod

789-6056, 6058, 6060, 6062, 6202

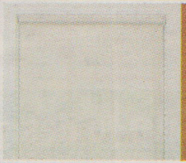
SALE PRICE	6.73
11% REBATE*	0.74
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	5.99 each

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

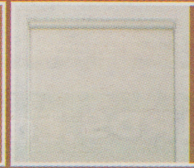
LIGHT FILTERING, ROOM DARKENING & BLACKOUT



LIGHT FILTERING
Softly dims your space, allowing varying amounts of light through



ROOM DARKENING
Darkens your space while allowing very small amounts of light through



BLACKOUT
Allows no light through for complete darkness

CARPET

12' nominal width.

IN/OUT DOOR

U·CARPET BROADLOOM.

Ashbury
- Great functionality and performance for patios, decks, playrooms, and more

767-4014-4016

SALE PRICE	1.00
11% REBATE*	0.11
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	89¢ sq. ft.

Shaw FLOORS

Keystone
MADE IN U.S.A.

- Warm, cozy, and soft underfoot

768-1724, 1726, 1728, 1730

SALE PRICE	1.11
11% REBATE*	0.12
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	99¢ sq. ft.

15' WIDE AVAILABLE FOR IMMEDIATE SHIPMENT FROM OUR FULFILLMENT CENTER

MARQUIS INDUSTRIES, INC.

Soft Dreams
MADE IN U.S.A.

- Ultra-Soft feel with a stylish look

777-1226-1229

SALE PRICE	1.56
11% REBATE*	0.17
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	1.39 sq. ft.

15' WIDE AVAILABLE FOR IMMEDIATE SHIPMENT FROM OUR FULFILLMENT CENTER

DESIGNER'S IMAGE

Tender Touch
MADE IN U.S.A.

- Engineered with ultra-soft fibers

768-5002, 5004

SALE PRICE	1.90
11% REBATE*	0.21
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	1.69 sq. ft.

Some items special order or not available at some locations. Visit MENARDS.COM® for availability!

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"Arriving at one goal is the starting point to another." — John Dewey

REFRESH YOUR BATH & GET AN 11% REBATE!*

VERTICAL OR HORIZONTAL INSTALLATION!
ŌVE
CHOOSE YOUR FINISH
Distressed Frost
Antique Oak
4 SIZES AVAILABLE

Framed Mirror

- 24" x 32" 483-9210, 677-4081

SALE PRICE	109.99
11% REBATE*	12.10
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	97.89 each

Riverland Vanity with Top

- Cloudy Sky Engineered Marble Vanity Top and Black Finish Hardware
- 42"W x 22"D 483-8072, 605-6584

Faucet sold separately.

SALE PRICE	786.49
11% REBATE*	86.51
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	699.98 each

PAY ONLY $66/MONTH FOR A TOTAL OF $786.49 WITH 12 MONTH EQUAL PAY PLAN††

The advertised monthly payment may be rounded to the nearest dollar and does not include taxes, shipping, or ancillary charges.

Learn more at MENARDS.com®/BigCardTerms

††See page 5 for full terms and conditions.

OVER 3,000 FAUCETS TO CHOOSE FROM!

Brushed Nickel Finish

- Foundations® 673-0953

SALE PRICE	49.99
11% REBATE*	5.50
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	44.49 each

American Standard

Brushed Nickel Finish

- Kenridge 673-3071

SALE PRICE	67.39
11% REBATE*	7.41
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	59.98 each

Spot Defense® Matte Black Finish

- Vermillion™ 673-2671

SALE PRICE	78.64
11% REBATE*	8.65
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	69.99 each

DELTA
PULL DOWN SPOUT

Matte Black Finish

- Lampard™ 673-1009

SALE PRICE	119.99
11% REBATE*	13.20
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	106.79 each

Champagne Bronze Finish

- Caffery™ 673-0672

SALE PRICE	145.94
11% REBATE*	16.05
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	129.89 each

4 SIZES AVAILABLE
CHOOSE YOUR FINISH
White
Phantom
DESIGNER'S IMAGE

Winston Vanity with Top

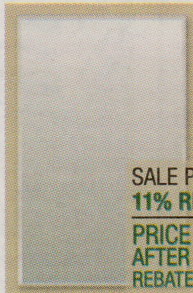
- White Cultured Marble Vanity Top and Satin Nickel Finish Hardware
- 24-1/2"W x 18-5/8"D 483-1006, 1010

Faucet sold separately.

SALE PRICE	129.99
11% REBATE*	14.30
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	115.69 each

MEDICINE CABINETS

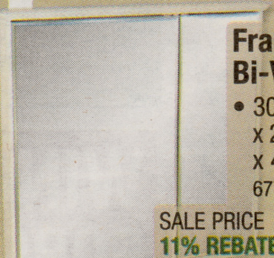
- Adjustable interior shelves



Frameless

- 16"W x 26"H x 4-1/2"D 677-5221

SALE PRICE	44.89
11% REBATE*	4.94
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	39.95 each



Framed Bi-View

- 30"W x 25-1/8"H x 4-5/8"D 677-5254

SALE PRICE	94.99
11% REBATE*	10.45
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	84.54 each

ALL MAAX UTILE SHOWERS & FREESTANDING TUBS ON SALE, PLUS AN 11% REBATE!*

Delsia Freestanding Tub

- Adjustable legs for easy leveling and installation
- 59-Gallon water capacity
- 66"W x 36"D x 26-5/8"H 671-4644

Faucet and drain sold separately.

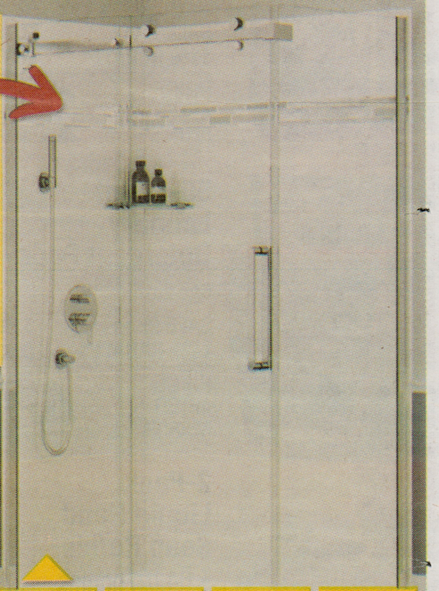
SALE PRICE	1,099.99
11% REBATE*	121.00
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	978.99 each

Halo Corner Shower Kit

- Includes Brushed Nickel Finish door, back and side walls, corner shelf, base, and return panel
- 48"W x 32"D x 81"H 695-4815

Faucet sold separately.

SALE PRICE	2,382.01
11% REBATE*	262.02
PRICE AFTER REBATE*	2,119.99 kit



Installs in 1/2 the time of conventional tile!

12 DESIGNER PATTERNS TO CHOOSE FROM!

Pricing may vary.

Tux	Origin Greige	Origin Arctik	Soft Grey	Ash Grey	Thunder Grey
Marble Carrara	Sahara	Charcoal	Taupe	Bora White	Pebble Grey

Some items special order at some locations. Visit MENARDS.COM® for availability!

* The 11% Rebate is a mail-in-rebate in the form of merchandise credit check from Menards®, valid on future in-store purchases only. The merchandise credit check is not valid towards purchases made on MENARDS.COM®. The 11% Rebate* is not a point-of-sale discount on any item purchased. Participating customers must mail their rebate receipt and completed rebate form to the address on the rebate form to receive their merchandise credit check. See rebate form for details. Limited to stock on hand. First come, first served. Items may be orderable or not available at some Menards® locations; additional packaging/handling charges may be required. See MENARDS.COM® for availability. Future sale price adjustments, exchanges and merchandise returns will void the 11% rebate on the items adjusted, exchanged and/or returned. Rebate is valid on special ordered products but does not extend to the special ordering of any normally stocked items. Not good with any other coupons or offers except Menards® coupons, Menards® rebates and manufacturers' coupons. Multiple receipts may accompany one rebate certificate. Menards® reserves the right to limit purchases of any and all items to reasonable job lot quantities. Excludes event tickets, gift cards, propane purchases, delivery and handling charges, all rental items, KeyMe®, processing fees, service and labor fees, packaging charges and extended service agreements. By submitting any rebate form, you agree to resolve any disputes related to rebate redemption by binding arbitration and you waive any right to file or participate in a class action. Terms and conditions available at www.rebateinternational.com.

Prices and Rebates Good Now Thru September 28, 2025.

Quantities limited to stock on hand. We reserve the right to limit quantities and to correct printing and layout errors. Due to market conditions, prices subject to change without notice. All prices cash and carry. Some items require various amounts of assembly. Prices and merchandise availability may vary by store.

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Dedicated to Service & Quality®

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Professional Delivery Available 7 Days A Week!

7-Pack Eraser Sponges

648-0075

While Supplies Last!

OTHER STORES AT 3.69
OUR SALE PRICE 0.99
11% REBATE* 0.11
PRICE AFTER REBATE* 88¢ 7-pack

6-Pack Paper Towels

648-6048

While Supplies Last!

SALE PRICE 3.36
11% REBATE* 0.37
PRICE AFTER REBATE* 2^{99} 6-pack

Multi-Purpose Cleaner

MADE IN U.S.A.

- Lavender scent

647-1185

SALE PRICE 3.36
11% REBATE* 0.37
PRICE AFTER REBATE* 2^{99} 56 oz.

50-Count Laundry Detergent Pods

MADE IN U.S.A.

647-9318, 9319

SALE PRICE 5.58
11% REBATE* 0.61
PRICE AFTER REBATE* 4^{97} 50 ct.

2-Pack Liquid Hand Soap Refills

- 64 oz. bottles

571-8019-8021, 8036, 8049, 8050

Selection may vary.

While Supplies Last!

SALE PRICE 6.73
11% REBATE* 0.74
PRICE AFTER REBATE* 5^{99} 2-pack

Elbow, Knee & Calf 571-0382, 0383

Head 571-0384

YOUR CHOICE HY-IMPACT™ ICE-GEL PACK

- Hot or cold therapy for soothing relief

Not available at some locations. Visit MENARDS.COM® for availability!

SALE PRICE 5.61
11% REBATE* 0.62
PRICE AFTER REBATE* 4^{99} each

Grease Cartridge

MADE IN U.S.A.

260-7902-7904

Not available at some locations. Visit MENARDS.COM® for availability!

SALE PRICE 4.48
11% REBATE* 0.49
PRICE AFTER REBATE* 3^{99} 14 oz.

Bar & Chain Oil

MADE IN U.S.A.

- Adheres to metal parts to maximize tool performance and life 261-5969

SALE PRICE 7.85
11% REBATE* 0.86
PRICE AFTER REBATE* 6^{99} gallon

Windshield Washer Fluid

MADE IN U.S.A.

- Delivers clear, streak-free shine

261-2797

SALE PRICE 1.99
11% REBATE* 0.22
PRICE AFTER REBATE* 1^{77} gallon

NO TOOLS, JUST TWIST!

50-Pack 11" Self Cutting Cable Ties

364-1250

SALE PRICE 1.11
11% REBATE* 0.12
PRICE AFTER REBATE* 99¢ 50-pack

Anti-Slip backing!

18" x 30" Entrance Mat

703-0127-0130

Mat size is approximate.

SALE PRICE 5.61
11% REBATE* 0.62
PRICE AFTER REBATE* 4^{99} each

Smart RGB Bar Light

- 9-3/8"
- Horizontal, vertical, or wall mount
- Tuneable to millions of colors in the Monster™ Smart app 346-9620

SALE PRICE 4.48
11% REBATE* 0.49
PRICE AFTER REBATE* 3^{99} each

LED Light Bulbs

- 8-Pack 100-watt equivalent or 12-pack 60-watt equivalent
- Soft White or Daylight

353-1080-1083

SALE PRICE 5.61
11% REBATE* 0.62
PRICE AFTER REBATE* 4^{99} pack

2 COLORS!

Black Blue

Rugged Wear

Performance Jacket

- Sizes M–2XL

661-0770-0773, 0795-0798

SALE PRICE 22.46
11% REBATE* 2.47
PRICE AFTER REBATE* 19^{99} each

14-Piece Mix & Prep Bowls Set

473-9549

While Supplies Last!

SALE PRICE 4.99
11% REBATE* 0.55
PRICE AFTER REBATE* 4^{44} set

WIN A 2025 FORD F-150 XLT

SIGN UP IN STORE AT OUR REGISTER TO WIN KIOSK!
ENTER SEPTEMBER 1ST – 30TH

Vehicle may vary.

Brought to you by cerrowire

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SCAN HERE TO SIGN UP FOR OUR EMAILS!

RECEIVE OUR DAILY FLASH SALE DEALS & GET THE FLYER RIGHT TO YOUR INBOX!